

MICROVAL[®]
International certification
organisation based in Europe

AOAC & MICROVAL METHOD VALIDATION TRAINING

18 JUNE 2025, 11:00 AM - 14:00 PM GMT+8
VIRTUALLY ON TEAMS

Microbial Method Validation and Global Regulatory Requirements

About the training workshop

The AOAC Southeast Asia Section (AOAC SEA), in collaboration with AOAC INTERNATIONAL and MICROVAL, is pleased to present the virtual training workshop: “**AOAC & MICROVAL Method Validation Training – Microbial Method Validation and Global Regulatory Requirements.**” Delivered by global leaders in method validation and certification, this session brings valuable international expertise to the regional scientific community, aiming to strengthen capabilities in microbiological method validation.

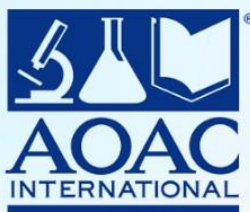
This is the **first session in a training series** designed to equip laboratory professionals, method developers, and regulatory stakeholders with essential knowledge and practical guidance aligned with international standards. As global regulatory expectations continue to evolve, robust method validation is increasingly critical to ensuring data integrity, product safety, and regulatory compliance.



Register Now

Before 17th Jun 2025

Title	AOAC & MICROVAL Method Validation Training – Microbial Method Validation and Global Regulatory Requirements
Date	18 June 2025, from 11:00 AM to 14:00 PM GMT+8
Venue	Virtually on Teams
Fee	S\$100 — AOAC SEA members enjoy a 100% discount



MICROVAL[®]
International certification
organisation based in Europe

AOAC & MICROVAL

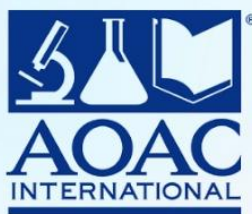
METHOD VALIDATION TRAINING

18 JUNE 2025, 11:00 AM - 14:00 PM GMT+8
VIRTUALLY ON TEAMS

Microbial Method Validation and Global Regulatory Requirements

Agenda

#	Topic	Speaker
1	Method Validation: What It Is, Why It Matters, and How We Work Together	<i>Kumud Ashish Singh</i> , Manager LS Regulatory APAC, Merck Life Science Pvt Ltd; AOAC SEA Microbiology Working Group Chair; Member, ISO/TC 34/SC9 WG 5 & WG 16
2	AOAC Guidance and Standards for Microbiological Method Validation	<i>Dr. Katerina (Kate) Mastovska</i> , Deputy Executive Director & Chief Science Officer, AOAC INTERNATIONAL; General Committee Member, MicroVal
3	MicroVal Introduction & Microbiology Method Validation	<i>Dr. Adrienne Klijn</i> , Manager Analytical Microbiology Platform, Nestlé; Chair of General Committee, MicroVal
4	Global Regulatory Requirements: Why Standards Differ, How Recognition Varies, and the Role of Food Classification	<i>Erin Crowley & Dr. Danièle Sohier</i> , Director, Scientific Affairs & Market Development, Hygiena; President, AOAC INTERNATIONAL; Member, MicroVal
5	Partnerships in Method Validation: Organizational Differences, Success Stories, and Harmonization Efforts Involving AFNOR, NMKL, and Other Certification Bodies	<i>Erin Crowley</i> , Chief Scientific Officer, Q Laboratories; Past President, AOAC INTERNATIONAL; Member, ISO TC34/SC9/WG 3 Committee on Method Validation
6	Q&A	All



MICROVAL[®]
International certification
organisation based in Europe

AOAC & MICROVAL METHOD VALIDATION TRAINING

Speakers



Dr. Katerina Mastovska
*Deputy Executive Director &
Chief Science Officer,
AOAC INTERNATIONAL*
*General Committee Member,
MicroVal*

Dr. Katerina (Kate) Mastovska is Deputy Executive Director and Chief Science Officer at AOAC INTERNATIONAL, where she is responsible for leadership of all scientific initiatives, standard development activities and science programs, including the Official Methods of Analysis program, AOAC Research Institute and Proficiency Testing program.

Kate joined the AOAC staff in January 2023 but has been a very active member of AOAC INTERNATIONAL since 2004. She is a Fellow of AOAC INTERNATIONAL and received the Association's highest scientific honor, the Harvey W. Wiley Award, in 2021.

Prior to joining AOAC, she worked at Eurofins Scientific and has most recently served as Chief Scientific Officer at Eurofins US Food Division.

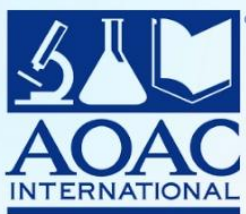


Dr. Adrianne Klijn
*Manager Analytical
Microbiology Platform,
Nestlé*
*Chair of General Committee,
MicroVal*

Adrianne commenced her educational journey in the Netherlands at Larenstein International Agricultural College, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Technology. She furthered her studies at University College Cork in Ireland, obtaining a Master of Science in Food Microbiology. In Switzerland, she pursued her Ph.D. at the Nestlé Research Centre, focusing on the physiological and molecular characterization of stress responses in *Bifidobacterium longum* NCC2705.

After her Ph.D., Adrianne led the microbiology laboratory at the Nestlé Quality Assurance Centre in York, UK. In 2010, she returned to the Nestlé Research Centre as a lead scientist within the Microbial and Molecular Analytics group. By 2013, she had assumed leadership of this group, which is responsible for the development, validation, and implementation of microbiological methods across Nestlé laboratories worldwide.

In 2022, these activities transitioned to a global platform involving Nestlé experts, which Adrianne continues to lead. Since 2011, she has actively participated in several ISO, CEN, and IDF standardization committees, serving as the convenor for the ISO working group focused on developing methods for spores, as well as food and feed microbial cultures (probiotics). Additionally, since 2023, Adrianne has been chairing the MicroVal General Committee.



MICROVAL[®]
International certification
organisation based in Europe

AOAC & MICROVAL METHOD VALIDATION TRAINING

Speakers



Dr. Danièle Sohier

Director, Scientific Affairs & Market Development, Hygiena
President, AOAC INTERNATIONAL
Member, MicroVal



Erin Crowley

Chief Scientific Officer, Q Laboratories
Past President, AOACI
Member, ISO TC34/SC9/WG 3 Committee on Method Validation

Dr. Danièle Sohier joined Hygiena in 2024 to coordinate global scientific affairs and market development. Prior to that, she spent 16 years at the ADRIA Institute in France, where she led the food safety business unit and helped establish ADRIA as a European leader in ISO 16140 validation studies for rapid methods.

Following her time at ADRIA, Daniele held several international roles in scientific and strategic affairs, focusing on market access, method recognition and regulatory engagement. During this time, she conducted major harmonized ISO 16140-6/AOAC-OMA validation studies, receiving the AOAC Method of the Year Award in 2018 and the Publication of the Year Award in 2019.

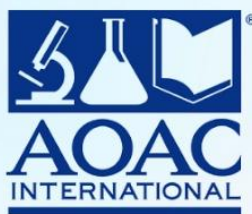
Daniele has always been deeply involved in standardization and method certification. After four years on the AOAC International Board of Directors, she began her term as President at the 2024 AOAC Annual Meeting. She co-chairs the AOAC Expert Review Panel for the validation of Official Methods in food microbiology and contributes to MicroVal and AFNOR committees for ISO 16140 validations. She plays a key role in the development and revision of ISO 16140 Parts 1, 2, 6, and 7, and led the creation of AOAC SMPR[®] on molecular applications in food authenticity. Her contributions have been recognized with the AOAC Technical & Scientific Excellence Award and the AOAC Fellow Award.

Erin Crowley is the Chief Scientific Officer at Q Laboratories, Inc in Cincinnati, Ohio where she oversees all aspects of Research & Development, Method Validation and technical expertise for the Food Safety Industry. Erin and her team serve as an Expert Laboratory for AOAC Official Methods of Analysis, AOAC Research Institute Performance Tested Methods Program, MicroVal and AFNOR NF Certification Programs.

Erin frequently presents technical symposia globally on Method Validation, Method Verification, Harmonization and ISO standards development often representing the perspective of the third-party laboratory.

Erin is an active member of AOAC INTERNATIONAL and the International Association of Food Protection (IAFP). Erin has key leadership roles at AOAC INTERNATIONAL including President of the Board of Directors and Chair of the AOAC Official Methods Board.

Erin is a member of the MicroVal Technical Committee (MVTC), ISO TC34/SC9/WG 3 Committee on Method Validation and Chair of the JIFSAN Advisory Council. Erin earned a B.S. from the University of Cincinnati and an M.A. from Tufts University.



MICROVAL[®]
International certification
organisation based in Europe

AOAC & MICROVAL METHOD VALIDATION TRAINING

Highlights



Kumud Ashish Singh

*Manager LS Regulatory APAC,
Merck Life Science Pvt Ltd;*

*Member, ISO/TC 34/SC9 WG 5
& WG 16 committee*

*Microbiology Working Group
Chair, AOAC SEA*



AOAC SEA Microbiology Working Group

Kumud Ashish Singh is currently leading regulatory management for F&B & Environment Testing at Merck Life Science supporting advocacy & surveillance for South Asia countries. Over 20 years of experience involving manufacturing & corporate roles in various FMCG companies. Prior to working with Merck, she was responsible for set up of greenfield lab project (1.4 MM USD) involving designing to operation (QMS) followed by Operational Excellence in laboratory for Mars International. Also worked as Microbiologist Subject Matter Expert with Coca-Cola India & Pepsi Foods, where she was responsible for conducting capability enhancement programs for microbiologists like global microbiology training, troubleshooting along with microbiology risk assessment programs to curb microbial spoilage & low-cost proficiency testing programs for India & Southwest Asia region. She started her career as microbiologist at Colgate Palmolive and Johnson & Johnson. She is a member of ISO/TC 34/SC9 WG 5 & WG 16 committee.

Formed by Kumud Ashish Singh, the AOAC SEA Microbiology Working Group aims to improve safe food production, distribution and food safety management by driving scientific agreement leading to reduction in diseases and recalls caused by microbiological hazards in foods.

The objectives of the WG are:

- Increase food microbiology representation in food safety in SEA.
- Identify needs of SEA region and work toward meaningful harmonization of criteria, regulation and food safety approach in food microbiology.
- Share best practices on microbiological risk assessment, hazard monitoring, test methods and new detection technologies.
- Build capacity in managing microbiological food safety in SEA by conducting training programs, seminar and webinars.

In 2023, the WG held a workshop titled “Assuring Microbiological Quality of Food” at the 2023 AOAC SEA 2nd Annual Conference with talks on:

- AOAC microbiology method validation
- Environmental monitoring of pathogens
- How to participate and use PT results effectively?