**Clinical Microbiology Laboratories,**

**Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden**

**Invitation to participate in the NordicAST 2023 LRE-TRE study**

Dear colleague,

On behalf of NordicAST and the Norwegian National Advisory Unit on Detection of Antimicrobial Resistance *(K-res)*, University Hospital of North-Norway, Tromsø, we hereby invite your laboratory to participate in the *NordicAST 2023 LRE-TRE study*. The primary aim of this study is to explore the performance of the EUCAST disc diffusion method ([http://www.eucast.org/)](http://www.eucast.org/%29%20) and supplementary methods to detect reduced susceptibility to linezolid and tigecycline in clinically relevant enterococci.

This invitation goes to Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Swedish, and Norwegian diagnostic laboratories to blindly examine a well characterized collection of enterococci (n=20) with a range of MICs against linezolid and/or tigecycline and defined resistance mechanisms. The study will run in February-April 2023. See the enclosed protocol for timeline and details.

Kristin Hegstad, Bjørg C. Haldorsen and Arnfinn Sundsfjord (Tromsø, Norway) coordinate the project in collaboration with the national contact persons in Denmark, Finland, Sweden and Iceland: Barbara Holzknecht (Denmark), Heikki Ilmavirta (Finland), Gunnar Kahlmeter/Erika Matuschek (Sweden), and Kristjan Orri Helgason (Reykjavik, Iceland).

We hope that your laboratory is willing to participate in this multicentre study as outlined in the study protocol. If so, please sign the enclosed confirmation. If further clarifications are necessary - please contact your national contact person **OR** Kristin Hegstad (kristin.hegstad@uit.no) **AND** Bjørg C. Haldorsen ([bjorg.haldorsen@unn.no](file:///M%3A%5Cermat1%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5C0M8PW98A%5Cbjorg.haldorsen%40unn.no)).

In advance – thanks for fruitful scientific collaboration!

Kind regards

 Barbara Holzknecht Gunnar Kahlmeter

 Erika Matuschek Heikki Ilmavirta

Kristjan Orri Helgason Kristin Hegstad

Arnfinn Sundsfjord Bjørg Haldorsen

**Confirmation - Participation in the NordicAST 2023 LRE-TRE study**

Our laboratory wishes to participate in the NordicAST 2023 LRE-TRE study according to the enclosed protocol.

**Laboratory name and strain shipment address:**

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**Contact person:**

**……………………………………………………………………………………………….**

**Email and phone: …………………………………………………………………………..**

**Date Signature:**

**……………………………………………………………………………………………….**

**Please respond by February 15th, 2023.**

**Return address for confirmation is:**

**Email (preferable):** *Bjørg C. Haldorsen: bjorg.haldorsen@unn.no* ***OR***

**Ordinary mail:** *K-res, Avdeling for mikrobiologi og smittevern.*

*Universitetssykehuset Nord-Norge,*

*Postboks 56,*

*NO-9038 Tromsø,*

*Norge*