

Bylaws of the Nordic Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (NordicAST)

Objectives

- To form a network of experts in antimicrobial susceptibility testing, under the auspices of the Nordic Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
- To adapt methods for susceptibility testing and characterization of resistance mechanisms to the Nordic setting
- To maintain a website from which breakpoint tables and documents on methodology adapted to the Nordic tradition can be downloaded without cost to the laboratories
- To organize educational workshops for laboratory personnel
- To advise on quality assurance of susceptibility testing
- To initiate and conduct studies on methodological issues
- To support existing Nordic networks dealing with antimicrobial resistance

NordicAST will not deal with any of the following subjects:

- Antibiotic policy or treatment recommendations
- Surveillance of antimicrobial resistance
- Surveillance of the consumption of antibiotics

NordicAST membership

Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Iceland will each appoint a minimum of one and maximum of three members representing national methodology committees for antimicrobial susceptibility testing. The regular members (maximum 15) serve on the committee for a period of maximum three years, and can thereafter be reappointed for consecutive periods by the national groups or societies responsible for giving the members a mandate.

The regular members of NordicAST will elect a chairman, a scientific secretary, and a treasurer among the members of the group. Additionally, NordicAST can appoint affiliated representatives, to assist the chairman, the scientific secretary and the treasurer with various administrative issues or for scientific purposes. Regular and affiliated members will have their expenses covered.

Finally, each country can appoint associated representatives in addition to the three national representatives. Such associated members will pay for their own travel, but will have other expenses covered. Maximum one associated member per country is allowed per meeting.

NordicAST decisions

The decision process is based on the committee being in agreement and use of open consultation when considered appropriate. A country may ask to be exempted from a recommendation in which case the reservation and the reason for the exemption shall be minuted.

NordicAST funding

The economy of NordicAST is funded on fees from the annual workshop. The main expenses are the meeting costs, in addition to scientific activities, mainly methodology studies.

NordicAST meetings

NordicAST will normally meet four times per year, and one of the meetings will be held in conjunction with the annual methodology workshop. None of the meetings are open meetings.

NordicAST publications

As appropriate, documents will be submitted for publication in scientific journals. All NordicAST documents will be posted on the NordicAST website (www.nordicast.org).

Stockholm/Tønsberg/Odense 9 April 2014

Amended København 2 December 2014



Christian G. Giske
Chairman



Dagfinn Skaare
Scientific secretary



Ulrik S. Justesen
Treasurer