

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Since 2011, NordicAST has been a working group for methodology in antimicrobial susceptibility testing, organized by the Nordic Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (NSCMID). The group members are appointed by the Swedish Society for Clinical Microbiology (three members), the Norwegian Working Group on Antibiotics (NWGA; three members), the Danish methodology group (DANRES-M; three members), and the Finnish methodology group (FinRes; three members). In addition one member represents the Icelandic Laboratory for clinical microbiology. The maximum number of regular members attending a board meeting will thus be 13.

The scope of the group is to work with methodology issues in antimicrobial susceptibility testing. An important part of this task is to maintain breakpoint tables adapted to Nordic traditions and translated to the Nordic languages, as well as providing guidance on how to detect important resistance mechanisms. In 2016 NordicAST has had four regular board meetings, and organized one workshop in antimicrobial susceptibility testing.

By the end of 2016 the regular members of the group were Christina Åhrén (SE), Annika Wistedt (SE), Christian G. Giske (SE), Iren Høyland Löhr (NO), Dagfinn Skaare (NO), Truls Michael Leegaard (NO), Kurt Fuursted (DK), Ulrik S. Justesen (DK), Dennis S. Hansen (DK), Kaisu Rantakokko-Jalava (FI), Anne-Mari Rissanen (FI), Anu Pätäri-Sampo (FI), and Kristijan Helgasson (IS). The group was chaired by Christian G. Giske until June 2016, when he was replaced by Dagfinn Skaare. Iren Høyland Löhr is the scientific secretary, Ulrik S. Justesen the treasurer, Mikala Wang (DK) the scientific coordinator (permanently associated), Anu Pätäri-Sampo the breakpoint table coordinator, and Kristijan Helgasson is assisting webmaster. In addition to the regular members, Gunnar Kahlmeter and Erika Matuschek are permanently associated members representing the EUCAST Development Laboratory. Further, Anita Løvås Brekken (NO) is an associate member, with travel expenses financed by NWGA.

In 2016 NordicAST generated a deficit of 51 803.42 DKK (see separate economic balance report). This was expected due to expenses of the NordicAST CPE study.

The main activities for NordicAST in 2016 have been maintaining a website (www.nordicast.org), harmonization of breakpoint tables, developing documents regarding screening of multidrug-resistant bacteria, organizing and financially supporting the NordicAST CPE study, and organizing the annual workshop in Gothenburg.

Stavanger, January 17, 2016

On behalf of NordicAST



Christian G. Giske
Chairman



Dagfinn Skaare
Chairman



Iren Høyland Löhr
Scientific secretary



Ulrik S. Justesen
Treasurer