

NEWSLETTER

to the
**National Reference Laboratories
for Antimicrobial Resistance**

No. 8 – December 2014

Contact information

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EURL-AR workshop, April 23-24, 2015

The venue of the coming year's EURL-AR workshop will be DTU Food, Kgs. Lyngby, Denmark.

The agenda is currently being drafted, and we are looking forward to meeting you here again for another opportunity for networking and collaboration!

Shortly, an official invitation with further details will be sent directly to the network participants.

Please book the days in your calendar.

The draft WHO Global Action Plan on antimicrobial resistance

At the Sixty-seventh World Health Assembly in May 2014, the World Health Organization was requested to develop a Global Action Plan to combat antimicrobial resistance, to be submitted to the Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly in May 2015.

The WHO Secretariat will lead the development of a Global Action Plan that reflects the commitment, perspectives and roles of all relevant stakeholders, and in which everyone has clear and shared ownership and responsibilities. Development of this plan will be guided by the advice of countries and key stakeholders.

The Global Action Plan will be based on several multi-stakeholder consultations at different global and regional fora.

Reference and additional information:

http://www.who.int/drugresistance/amr_global_action_plan/en/

New EQAS on isolation of ESBL-, AmpC- and- or carbapenemase-producing isolates from caecal and/or meat matrix

In relation to the activities arranged by the EURL-AR, the EU Commission has requested that the EURL-AR organizes an EQAS in 2015 focusing on the qualitative detection of for ESBL-, AmpC- and carbapenemase-producing *E. coli* from a matrix of caecal and food samples (cattle and swine/beef and pork). For this EQAS, samples will be shipped to the NRLs and for testing using the selective isolation protocols for ESBL-, AmpC- and carbapenemase-producing *E. coli* (according to official EURL-AR protocol posted online (<http://eurl-ar.eu/233-protocols.htm>)).

At present, we have confirmed that this EQAS will be included in the EURL-AR workplan for 2015 and that it is expected to run in the last part of the year. Details regarding the EQAS procedures will be disseminated as soon as we have some more concrete plans in place.

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Additionally, be informed that in 2015, an MRSA-EQAS will not be provided.

Protocols for specific isolation of ESBL, AmpC and carbapenemase producing *E. coli*

The two protocols for specific isolation of ESBL, AmpC and carbapenemase producing *E. coli* from meat and caecal samples have now been released on the EURL-AR website (<http://eurl-ar.eu/233-protocols.htm>). Note – version 2 has now been issued.

Additionally, a protocol for validation of the selective MacConkey agar plates supplemented with 1 mg/L has been released.

Note that the MacConkey plates supplemented with 1 mg/L cefotaxime used in the protocols can either be produced locally or bought commercially, as long as they follow the quality control (QC) standards as outlined in the QC protocol also published by the EURL-AR. We would like to collect information regarding commercial distributors producing these plates from NRLs, who have made (or will make) arrangements and will be happy to distribute this information to other NRLs upon request, so please feel free to contact us (Henrik Hasman; hhas@food.dtu.dk) in case you have made/need this information available.

Information from the network participants:

- ⇒ Recently, in Vet Microbiology (<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.vetmic.2014.10.014>) the following article was published:
Title: High-level fluoroquinolone resistant *Salmonella enterica* serovar Kentucky ST198 epidemic clone with IncA/C conjugative plasmid carrying *bla*_{CTX-M-25} gene
Authors: Dariusz Wasyl, Izabela Kern-Zdanowicz, Katarzyna Domańska-Blicharz, Magdalena Zajac, Andrzej Hoszowski
- ⇒ This summer, the following article was published (Schweiz Arch Tierheilkd. 2014 Jul;156(7):317-25. DOI: 10.1024/0036-7281/a000601).
Title: Nasal carriage of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) among Swiss veterinary health care providers: detection of livestock- and healthcare-associated clones.
Authors: K. Wettstein Rosenkranz, E. Rothenanger, I. Brodard, A. Collaud, G. Overesch, B. Bigler, J. Marschall, V. Perreten