

15 March 2023

To the FWD AMR-RefLabCap network

Dear Colleague and network member,

With this mail you are invited to participate in the

Second *in silico* inter-laboratory ring trial of bioinformatics pipelines for prediction of AMR genes in antimicrobial-resistant *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* (RingTrial2-WGS-AMR)

The ring trial is organised by the FWD AMR-RefLabCap project and all National Reference Laboratories (NRLs) in the project are invited to participate. The RingTrial2-WGS-AMR is the second in a series of three ring trials to be carried out in 2022, 2023 and 2024, respectively.

The aim of the three FWD AMR-RefLabCap ring trials is to support further development and implementation of the proposed protocol for whole genome sequencing-based analysis for detection and tracing of epidemic clones of antimicrobial resistant *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*, developed in the FWD AMR-RefLabCap project. The current version of the protocol is available from the project website (<https://www.fwdamr-reflabcap.eu/resources/protocols-and-guidelines>) and when participating in the RingTrial2-WGS-AMR, you are recommended to follow the guidelines in the protocol.

Test sequences and methods:

Depending on your NRL area, you can sign up for the *Salmonella* part and/or the *Campylobacter* part of the ring trial. You will be provided with links to 4-6 test sequences of *Salmonella* and 4-6 test sequences of *Campylobacter* that have been generated using the Illumina platform. It will be possible to receive both reads (fastq files) and assembled genomes (fasta files).

You shall analyse the sequences for genes and point mutations that confer antimicrobial resistance. It is optional to report the sequence type (ST) of test sequences of both organisms, as well as the *Campylobacter* species and *Salmonella* serotype.

Reporting of results:

Your results shall be reported on a web-based platform, where you have the option to report the identified AMR genes and point mutations, the ST, *Campylobacter* species and serotype for *Salmonella*. You will further be asked to report information about your applied analysis methods.

Feedback

All submitted data will be analysed and the main conclusions will be compiled in a short evaluation report that will contain anonymised data. This report will be disseminated to the network and other relevant stakeholders.

Registration:

Please respond to this letter before 29th of March 2023 using the online form at

(individual link)

DATES TO REMEMBER

The test sequences will be shared with you on the 15th of May and the deadline for submission of results is 16th of June 2023.

29th of March 2023 – Deadline to respond to the invitation online

15th of May 2023 – Sequences and assemblies available to download

16th of June 2023 – Deadline for online submission of results

We kindly ask you to provide the following details in the online registration form

- Contact information of the person that will submit the result
- Specify which parts of the RingTrial2-WGS-AMR you wish to participate in (*Salmonella* and/or *Campylobacter*)

The sequences and assemblies that will be shared with you for the RingTrial2-WGS-AMR (from *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*) are for internal use in your laboratory and must not be distributed to other laboratories/institutions without permission from the Statens Serum Institut. In the online form you are asked to confirm your acceptance of this.

If you need further information, please contact fwdamr@ssi.dk

Regards,

FWD AMR RefLabCap Project Team

Department of Bacteria, Parasites & Fungi,

Unit of Foodborne Infections

STATENS SERUM INSTITUT

|T +45 3268 8341 | E fwdamr@ssi.dk|

|Artillerivej 5 | DK-2300 Copenhagen S | Denmark|