

# NEWSLETTER

## FWD AMR-RefLabCap project

### Overview of activities in 2023/2024

In this Newsletter, you can find the dates (Table 1) and description of the FWD AMR-RefLabCap project activities planned in 2023 and 2024.

**Table 1.** Overview of the upcoming activities in FWD AMR – RefLabCap in 2023/2024 and important dates

Time/Duration	Activity	Title
September 2023	Video sessions	Knowledge exchange groups
23-27 October 2023	Online workshop	2 <sup>nd</sup> Multidisciplinary training
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 23 November 2023</li> <li>• 10 January 2024</li> <li>• 12-13 March 2023</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Webinar</li> <li>• Webinar</li> <li>• Physical workshop</li> </ul>	Support to NRLs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• December 2023</li> <li>• January 2024</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports</li> <li>• Webinar</li> </ul>	2 <sup>nd</sup> EQA/Ring-trial
Q2-Q4 2024	EQA3-WGS-AMR and RingTrial3-WGS-AMR	3 <sup>rd</sup> EQA/Ring-trial
Q3 2024	Online workshop	3 <sup>rd</sup> Multidisciplinary training
23-24 October 2024 (preliminary dates)	2-day meeting, Copenhagen (physical)	Network meeting

#### Knowledge exchange groups

To facilitate the continued exchange of experience and knowledge among the network members in the field of surveillance of AMR in *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* in the public health sector, the project team will initiate online meetings for participants who signed-up in three **knowledge exchange groups covering three overall themes**. One kick-off meeting per group will be organised in September 2023.

#### Multidisciplinary training

The FWD AMR-RefLabCap team aims to provide multidisciplinary training to improve the capability/capacity for analysing and interpreting WGS-data for *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* AMR surveillance, outbreak detection and investigation, and to improve the collaboration between public health epidemiologists and microbiologist in each country in the area of national surveillance and outbreak investigations and, when relevant, improve the collaboration with the food safety authorities.

The upcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> multidisciplinary workshop will take place in the period 23 to 27 October 2023. The workshop will start and end with online meetings while in between these meetings, the participants will analyse *Salmonella* and/or *Campylobacter* sequence data and interpret epidemiological and cluster analysis results. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Multidisciplinary training workshop will be carried out in Q3 of 2024.

## **Support to NRLs to establish national surveillance networks and to carry out capacity-building activities for regional and local laboratories**

The capacity-building training is offered to all project participants. Two webinars and one physical two-day train-the-trainer workshop will be organized in 2023/2024.

In the physical workshop, participants will be provided a theoretical and practical pedagogical framework enabling them to transfer the learnings for setting up a training for capacity building in the regional and local laboratories. Training material for detection and characterization of *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*, which directly can be communicated by NRLs to the regional and local laboratories will also be provided. Webinars will be used to prepare and to follow up on the physical workshop.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> annual EQA/ring-trial for genotypic testing of AMR**

The EQA scheme is used to evaluate the participants' technical and analytical skills for WGS-based resistome profiling in *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter*. The ring-trials are focused on evaluating the performance of the applied tools and databases for AMR target detection. After participation, the laboratories will be able to identify strengths and weaknesses in their technical and analytical setup and implement appropriate actions for the improvement of their performance.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> round of EQA and ring-trial is completed and the data analysis is in progress. The anonymized results will be presented in reports as well as at a webinar.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> round of EQA and ring-trial will take place in 2024.

### **Network meeting**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> network meeting will be a physical two-day meeting in Copenhagen. Two persons per country will be invited to participate in the meeting.