The Norwegian National Advisory Unit on Detection of Antimicrobial Resistance is located in Northern Norway – the region of the midnight sun and northern lights.

The centre was established in 2001 and is organized as a unit at the Department of Microbiology and Infection Control, University Hospital of North Norway in close collaboration with UiT The Arctic University of Norway.

The main of objectives for the centre are:
- Detection and molecular characterization of antibiotic resistant bacteria as a national reference function.
- National competence building in collaborative efforts through education, training courses and research.
- Research at a high international level in specific areas.

Routine diagnostic and research activities:
1. Interpretive reading of antibiograms/MIC profiles, evaluation of phenotypic and genotypic methods for detection of antimicrobial resistance on routine samples.
2. Molecular epidemiology on specific resistance mechanisms:
   - Broad spectrum β-lactamases in Gram-negative bacteria.
   - Vancomycin and linezolid resistance in enterococci.
4. Investigations into mechanisms of transfer/stabilization/persistence and biological cost of antimicrobial resistance.

Participation in activity 1 are feasible for a one week observership. Activities 2-4 requires specific agreements, prequalification and longer observerships.

Comments from previous observers:
- “much of what I’ve learned will improve the quality of the medical care given at my institution and will help me with my scientific projects”
- “I received an excellent training and the visit will further strengthen a nascent collaboration”
- “The observership fully met all my expectations”

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