



SeqNet.org Meeting

Rhodes 25th to 27th of April 2007



at the

Hotel Mediterranean

on the island of

Rhodes, Greece



organised by the SeqNet.org initiative
convener: Institute of Hygiene



University of Münster

Introduction

Since the first meeting and the foundation of **SeqNet.org** in Münster 2004, a lot of actions and experiences with sequence based typing, especially *spa* typing were made by the participants. The first certification process was performed, publications in scientific journals, presentations and workshops at international conferences and in the media have fostered SeqNet.org as an initiative driven by the academic community that is actively working in the field of molecular surveillance and public health.

The **SeqNet.org** meeting in Rhodes is the 3rd general meeting of the network and is aimed to exchange experiences, discuss and decide on the many question which arose during the last 3 years of sequence based typing throughout Europe.

Background

The **SeqNet.org** initiative is a vivid European-wide network of laboratories for sequence based typing of microbial pathogens. Its main goal is to establish unambiguous, electronic, portable, easily comparable typing data for local infection control and national and European surveillance of sentinel micro-organisms. This is achieved (1) by harmonization of sequencing methods for sequence based typing and building capacity for DNA sequencing in diagnostic microbiology, (2) by establishing quality control/quality assessment (QC/QA) for DNA sequencing in diagnostic microbiology, (3) by improving the general access to sequence based microbial typing results and the transfer of data at international level and (4) by dissemination of the projects results through a web-portal. SeqNet.org participants generate high quality typing data that are available "on the fly" to all participants and the public through the web-portal.

For more information, contact:

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Meeting Program

Wednesday, 25th April 2007

13.00 Registration at the Mediterranean Hotel

15.00 Welcome address

Athanassios Tsakris, Institute of Microbiology, University of Athens, Greece

15.20 Update on the SeqNet-activities 2006-2007

Alex Friedrich, Institute of Hygiene, University Hospital Münster, Germany

15.45 Experiences of the Austrian National Reference Laboratory for Coagulase Positive Staphylococci, including *S. aureus*

Werner Ruppitsch, Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety, Vienna, Austria

16.15 Optimization of *spa*-sequence based typing of *S. aureus* in the National Reference Laboratory, INCDMI "Cantacuzino", Bucarest, Romania using the SeqNet.org initiative harmonized protocol

Mihaela Oprea, Monica Straut, Irina Codita, Cantacuzino Institute, Bucharest, Romania

Romanian participation in the SeqNet.org initiative: Preliminary results

Irina Codita, Monica Straut, Mihaela Oprea

16.45 Croatian *spa* typing data

Smilja Kalenic, Clinical and Molecular Microbiology, Clinical Hospital Centre Zagreb, Croatia

17.20 *spa* typing experiences of *S. aureus* in Latvia

Edvins Miklasewics, P. Stradins Clinical University Hospital, Riga, Latvia

17.40 Discussion

18.00 End of session

Dinner 1 with live Greek music (see below)

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Thursday, 26th April 2007

8.30h EU perspective for surveillance of antimicrobial resistance

Andrea Ammon, European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC); Stockholm, Sweden

EARSS/SeqNet.org study on invasive isolates in Europe

Alex Friedrich, Institute of Hygiene, University Hospital Münster, Germany

spa typing based re-admission and early warning alerts

Alex Mellmann, Institute of Hygiene, University Hospital Münster, Germany

Hospital Infection Surveillance System (HISS): spa typing based molecular epidemiology

Dag Harmsen, Clinics for Periodontology, University Hospital Münster, Germany

spa typing in *Staphylococcus aureus*: discrimination versus evolution

Birgit Strommenger, Robert Koch Institute, Wernigerode Branch, Germany

Sequence based typing of *Neisseria meningitidis*

Ulrich Vogel, Institute of Hygiene and Microbiology, University of Würzburg, Germany

Discussion

Participants

13.00h Lunch break

14.30h Cross border molecular surveillance

Cross-border surveillance of multi-resistant microorganisms

*Ron Hendrix, Laboratorium Microbiologie/EUREGIO MRSA-net, Enschede, The Netherlands
Alex Friedrich, Institute of Hygiene, University Hospital Münster, Germany*

Molecular epidemiology of MRSA in the EUREGIO Meuse/Rhine

Ruud Deurenberg and Ellen Stobberingh, Medical Microbiology, University Hospital Maastricht, The Netherlands

15.30 National experiences

MLST, spa typing and PVL typing for surveillance of MRSA in the Eastern Health Region of Norway

Tone Taennes, EPIGEN, Akershus University Hospital, Norway

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MRSA typing in the Austrian National Reference Centre for Nosocomial Infections and Antibiotic Resistance

Karina Pfeil, Institute of Hygiene, Microbiology and Tropical Medicine, Linz, Austria

Surveillance of (CA)-MRSA in Greece

Sophia Vourli, National School of Public Health, Athens, Greece

Evangelia Piperaki, Institute of Microbiology, Athens, Greece

Molecular typing of *S. aureus* isolates colonizing healthy mothers and their infants

Effie Scoulica, School of Medicine, University of Crete, Greece

Is *spa* typing sufficient?

Additional typing of *spa* types: Does it have value?

Henrik Westh, Dept. of Clinical Microbiology, Hvidovre Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark

16.00 Discussion and Break

17.00 Discussion and Decision

Moderator: *Henrik Westh Dept. of Clinical Microbiology, Hvidovre Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark*

SeqNet: A common platform for nomenclature and agreement with RIDOM and Applied Maths

Discussion and Decision

Moderator: *Alex Mellmann, Institute of Hygiene, University Hospital Münster, Germany*

QA/QC: SeqNet internal quality control standard

Discussion and Decision:

Moderator: *Wolfgang Witte, Robert Koch Institute, Wernigerode Branch, Germany*

QC/QA: External quality control standard and proficiency testing

19.00 End of session

20.00 Dinner 2 in the Knight's house (see below)

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Friday, 27th April 2007

9.00 Discussion and Decision:

Moderator: *Alex Friedrich, Institute of Hygiene, University Hospital Münster, Germany*

SeqNet database as a common strain pool

Moderator: *Sara Haegman, Swedish Institute for Infectious Disease Control, Solna, Sweden*

SeqNet org membership, management, organization and data flow

Moderator: *Helmut Walerius, DG SANCO, European Commission, Luxembourg*

FP7, ERC, TAIEX and other funding for future SeqNet activities

11.00 Conclusions and end of meeting

11.30 Start of the guided city tour to the Old Town and the ancient Acropolis of Rhodes

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Location:

Rhodes International Airport

City of Rhodes
Venue Hotel Mediterranean



Venue Hotel Mediterranean

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Hotel:

Your accommodation* and the SeqNet.org meeting will all take place at the:

Hotel Mediterranean (A' Class Superior)**

35, Kos Street

851 00 Rhodes, Greece

Tel.: +30-22410 24661

ISND: +30-22410- 97000

Fax: +30-22410- 22828

Contact person: Apostolis Diakoulas (Resident Manager)

Email: info@mediterranean.gr

WWW: <http://www.mediterranean.gr>

*For information about the costs for the accommodation: see above under costs.

** Greek hotel category



*Hotel A' CLASS SUPERIOR
Mediterranean*

Location Accommodation Elegant Facilities Meeting Facilities Sports & Activities

H Video

*Rhodes' finest boutique Hotel of choice !
Discreet Luxury*

Renovated in full elegance in year 2000, **Mediterranean** provides a superior first class hotel, redesigned to induce its guests in an atmosphere of relaxed elegance blending stylish decor with functional character and sense of comfort. Continuing its tradition on attention to detail and personalized service, **Hotel Mediterranean** presents a distinctive experience of warm hospitality ideal for business or pleasure all year round.

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- Rates & Packages
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Transfer/Flights to Rhodes:

BY PLANE

You get to Rhodes from Athens after about 45 minutes of flight.

The international airport Diagoras is located at 17km from the city, near the village of Paradissi. There are regular daily flights to Athens, to Heraklion Crete, and to Thessaloniki. Rodos is also connected with the neighbouring islands of Kastellorizo, Karpathos, and Kassos.

Airways traveling from Thessaloniki and Athens to Rhodes:

Aegean Airlines: <http://www.aegean-airlines.com>

Olympic Airways: <http://www.olympic-airways.com>

There are also international flights to and from Italy, England, Germany (<http://www.ltu.de>).

The best way to get from the airport to the hotel is to take a taxi (10 to 15 €). A public bus service connects the airport to the city.

If you need private car transport for any reason, please contact the SeqNet.org organizers.

BY SHIP

The commercial harbour is situated in the city. All international and domestic ferries dock here as well as all the cruise liners.

There are regular ferry lines connecting Rhodes with Athens (Pireaus), Thessaloniki, Heraklion, Cyprus and Turkey.

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Costs:

Travel and flight/transfer

Travel and transfer costs are on your own expenses. There is the possibility of transport to the airport by car. Please, communicate your transfer wish to the SeqNet.org organizers.

Accommodation at the venue Hotel Mediterranean:

Single Room:

- Single room BB (incl. breakfast buffet): **40€**
- Single room HB (incl. breakfast and one meal (lunch or dinner): **46 €**

Double Room:

- Double room BB (incl. breakfast buffet): **54 €**
- Double room HB (incl. breakfast and one meal (lunch or dinner): **66 €**

All prices are valid for all days you stay at the venue hotel Mediterranean.

The prices are valid for all participants who sent their confirmation fax before February 10th 2007 to the SeqNet.org coordinators.

HB can be changed on every day. Please contact the hotel reception.

Dinners/City Tour:

Dinner 1: Dinner 1 is meant as an “icebreaker” and will be at a Greek Tavern with live music on Wednesday 25th. Drinks and light appetizers are served on your own costs. Here we will have the possibility for Greek traditional dances. Please register at the registration. Afterwards a walk through the old town will bring us to the hotel again.

Dinner 2: Dinner 2 is the main dinner of the meeting on Thursday 26th. It will be at the Knight's house “Hippotikon” in the centre of the Old Town of Rhodes. The dinner comprises a 3 gang menu / water and wine plus live Bouzouki music):

Costs are **35€ p.p.**

Please, register for Dinner 2 at the SeqNet.org registration desk

For more information look under: <http://www.ipotikon.com>

City Tour: The guided city tour will be held on Friday 27th. Included is the bus transfer to the old town, Museum of the Knights and the ancient Acropolis of Rhodes.

Costs are **20€ p.p.**

Please, register for the City tour at the SeqNet.org registration desk

Fees: There are no extra or registration fees for the meeting. The venue hall, coffee breaks, the sandwich lunch break on Thursday, and internet communication is paid by SeqNet.org.
