



Confidentiality agreement for participation in the NoroNet network

version May 2010

Following an agreement made between three networks involved in molecular surveillance of norovirus, at the Third International Calicivirus Conference, Cancun, Mexico in November 2007, the NoroNet network was established.

1. **CaliciNet**, developed by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is directed by Dr Jan Vinjé
2. The **Foodborne Viruses in Europe Network (FBVE)** (<http://www.fbve.nl>), directed by Prof Dr Marion Koopmans, RIVM, the Netherlands
3. The **Australian and New Zealand NoV Surveillance Network**, including Associate Professor Peter White, Dr Chris Mclver, Professor Bill Rawlinson (All NSW), Dr Gail Greening and Dr Joanne Hewitt (New Zealand), Dr Michael Lyon (Brisbane), Dr John Marshall (Melbourne), Dr Ratcliff (S. Australia) and Dr David Speers (Perth) and supported by collaborators in Japan, US and Europe

NoroNet consists of virologists who are involved in the sequencing of norovirus (NoV) strains on a national level and are willing to share this data along with some background information for international molecular surveillance as a means to reduce norovirus infections. The establishment of NoroNet has the following objectives:

1. To monitor global NoV trends (includes mapping the population structure of NoV strains and developing a platform for information exchange)
2. Timely recognition of international (food-borne) outbreaks of norovirus
3. To develop common protocols for genotyping and nomenclature of NoV strains and to make these publicly available through a typing tool on the internet
4. To develop a web based information exchange platform
5. To provide advice, training and reference materials for network participants and for third parties

Within the network privileged information is exchanged by the contributors. Therefore, participation in the network involves the signing of a confidentiality agreement. Access to the database will be controlled through login names and passwords. Login names and passwords will be issued after completion and signing of the enclosed confidentiality agreement. We will send your (new) personal entry codes by e-mail. Please complete the agreement, sign and send to:

Annelies Kroneman
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e-mail: noronet@rivm.nl

If you have additional questions please contact:

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Confidentiality agreement for access to and use of the NoroNet database and e-mail network

..... (name of person)

..... (e-mail address to be used)

on behalf of

..... (name of institute)

..... (address of institute)

will participate in NoroNet and agree to the following user code:

All information shared within the e-mail network (noronet@rivm.nl), on the password protected page at the NoroNet website (www.noronet.nl) and in the norovirus molecular platform database, <https://secure.rivm.nl/mpf/norovirus/database> :

- Will be regarded as confidential; data that are not available in the public domain are owned by the laboratory that submitted them. No such data will be used and/or published without the written consent from the owner.
- Data submitted to the database will become publicly accessible 3 months after their date of submission.
- Publications in which data matched through the database are used should state so clearly, including a reference to NoroNet.
- The use of the database is on a "give-and-take-basis": participants agree to submit data as well as extract data for comparative analysis. Exceptions will be discussed among participants to reach a consensus.
- In case of a public health threat (e.g. international food-borne outbreak), data will be shared at request with organizations involved in control activities (ECDC, WHO, EFSA), again after consultation of data submitters. In case these are not available and the urgency of the situation is such that immediate action is required, data will be provided clearly marked confidential, and stating the source of the information as well as contact details of contributors.

Name (write in full):

Title:

Signature:

(stamp of the organization)