

Professor Frank M. Aarestrup, DVM, PhD, is Head of the Research Group of Genomic Epidemiology at the National Food Institute, Technical University of Denmark (DTU), which has a strong focus on providing basic research knowledge for real-life infectious disease surveillance and control. Throughout his career, the focus has been to ensure that research and data are used for global public health actions, seeing research as a means towards a goal not a goal in itself.

From the mid-nineties his research focus was on the importance of in feed antibiotics for selection of resistance and possible human health consequences, as well as setting up the Danish monitoring of antimicrobial resistance (DANMAP). From the beginning of the millennium the focus has been on global capacity building for antimicrobial susceptibility testing and surveillance and Prof. Aarestrup was for many years head of the collaborating centers for AMR for WHO, EU and FAO.

During the last 15 years, a main focus has been on utilizing sequencing technologies for improved global surveillance and data sharing and as part of this evaluating the usefulness of metagenomics for improved global surveillance including though the use of sewage. However, most importantly, as part of these projects, Prof. Aarestrup have developed and provided online tools for identifying and characterizing all known microbial pathogens, as well as AMR and virulence genes. These services have been extensively accessed and have so far executed +8,000,000 analyses from +75,000 IP addresses in +170 countries. As part of a new initiative these services will now be expanded.

The nominee is listed as a Clarivate analytics highly cited researcher and has based on GoogleScholar more than 77347 citations and a h-factor of 131.