

## NorVect Conference 2015 – poster session

### **The Norwegian National Advisory Unit on Tick-borne Diseases (NKFS)**

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The Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services decided in 2013 that a Norwegian National Advisory Unit on Tick-borne Diseases (NKFS) should be founded. The assignment was given The South-Eastern Norway Regional Health Authority. The service was established at Sørlandet Hospital Health Trust in 2014.

The main tasks for The Advisory Unit are to advise and inform about tick-borne diseases, and to improve diagnostic quality and treatment of tick-borne diseases in Norway. There is huge attention to and insecurity about the prevalence, diagnostics, treatment and prognosis of tick-borne diseases. For some areas there is lack of knowledge, for others we have good research based knowledge. It is important that sound knowledge is made better known, and that fields of lacking knowledge are made subject to research. NKFS focuses on building and spreading competence on borreliosis and Tick-borne Encephalitis (TBE) - the two most important human tick-borne diseases in Norway - to health services, persons with tick-borne diseases and the population. NKFS does not have treatment responsibilities for patients.

The Advisory Unit supports and conveys research on tick-borne diseases. NKFS also initiates the building of networks for research and quality improvement on tick-borne diseases in Norway, and contributes in establishing a national bio-database on tick-borne diseases.

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