

## **Information regarding the use of the electron microscopy (EM) lab at the Department of Clinical and Molecular Medicine (IKOM)**

Previously, EM-lab was organized as a core facility, but since 2023 has been organized directly under IKOM.

The lab has reduced staffing, with 2 persons in 50% positions, which will operate the lab and assist research projects with embedding, sectioning and microscopy of samples.

During periods with a lot of activity, users will have to expect a waiting time to have requested projects carried out. Ongoing projects, which are extended beyond the agreed assistance and duration, will have to send a new request regarding project extension. This is to ensure that other projects on the waiting list keep the agreed time for assistance for their project. Larger projects will also have to take into account that there may be breaks in the project to carry out training of new users and other tasks.

Users (researchers/students) should, to the greatest extent possible, receive training in microscopy (2 days) and microscopy their own samples themselves. This will free up engineering capacity so that more projects can be carried out/get help with sample preparation. Sample preparation must be adapted for each issue and type of sample, and it must be taken into account that there can sometimes be delays as a result of unforeseen problems with the work. In the event of major delays, the user will be contacted for a new time estimate.

For new projects, an assessment will be made of capacity, method, possibility of method testing etc. Some project requests may have to be rejected based on insufficient capacity for method testing or project implementation.

In the case of large long-term projects, it is possible to free up engineering resources at the EM lab so that staffing is then strengthened. Users are then encouraged to include such costs in their applications for project funds.

All projects, both internal and external, that wish to use the EM lab are asked to send a request to IKOM research support by e-mail: [forskningsstotte@ikom.ntnu.no](mailto:forskningsstotte@ikom.ntnu.no). Users must inform about their planned activity and time frame. Users are encouraged to notify early and think long-term, as EM work takes a lot of time. You will then be contacted by e-mail to investigate in more detail the needs of the projects and to clarify capacity at the EM lab.

For internal (IKOM) users, expenses are covered through rent payment. For external users, a price will be agreed based on the project's needs and duration.