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Version 10

Guidance for populating GenomeTrakr metadata templates (BioSample and SRA) V.10

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Protocol status: Working

We use this protocol and it's working

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Abstract

PURPOSE: Guidance on how to populate NCBI's metadata packages, maximizing interoperability for foodborne pathogen surveillance.

SCOPE: This protocol provides detailed instructions for populating the following two templates:

1. **BioSample metadata:** guidelines for obtaining and populating metadata templates describing the sample.
2. **SRA metadata:** Guidelines for populating sequence-level metadata template.

Versions:

v6: Added the One Health Enteric package presented at IAFP 2021 meeting.

v7: Updated the picklists in the GenomeTrakr-extended pathogen package, "**GT-pathogen package-OHE v0.2.2.xlsx**" and added an incremental update file for the **DRAFT One Health Enteric Package** that includes extensive edits compared to v6.

v8: Updated the picklists in the GenomeTrakr-extended pathogen package, "**GT-pathogen package-OHE v0.2.2.xlsx**". Also provided a direct link to the newly published One Health Enteric package.

v9: Bug fix

v10: updates to the GenomeTrakr-extended pathogen biosample template (**GT-pathogen package-OHE v0.3.xlsx**) and release of newly available One Health Enteric package custom templates.

Materials

Gather the following contextual information for each pure culture isolate:

1. organism name
2. lab name that collected the sample
3. collection date
4. collection source
5. Geographic location of sample collection

Before start

Before collecting sequence data for your isolates, ensure that you can provide the minimum metadata recommended by your coordinating surveillance body. The INSDC, in collaboration with the Global Microbial Identifier (GMI) (<https://www.globalmicrobialidentifier.org>), recommends using the Pathogen metadata template for pathogen surveillance submissions: (NCBI: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pathogens/submit-data> and EMBL-EBI: <https://www.ebi.ac.uk/ena/submit/pathogen-data>).

Overview

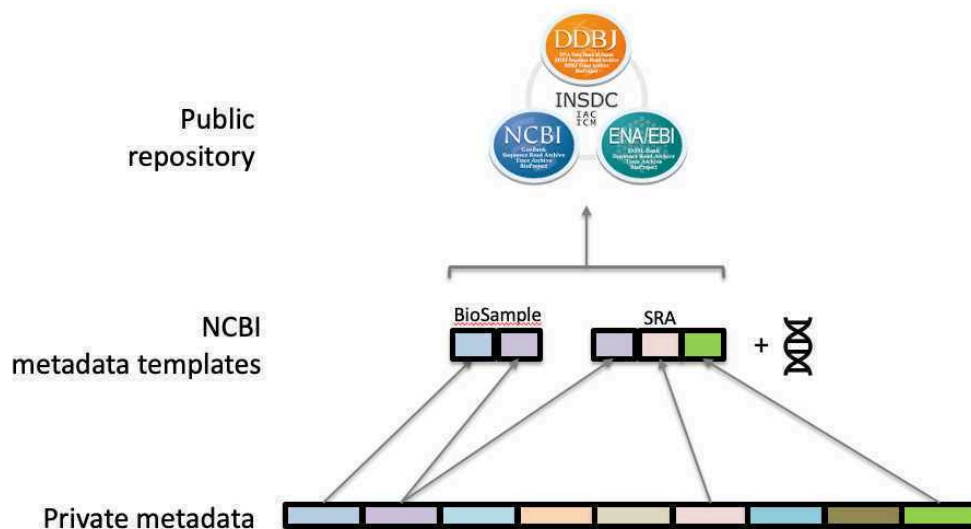
- 1 **Guidance for organizing and populating the metadata templates required for direct submission to NCBI. This guidance is applicable for most enterics and/or microbial pathogens.**

Note

****PulseNet labs:** for submissions through BioNumerics, please follow this [protocol](#).

Two metadata templates are required for each NCBI submission:

1. **BioSample** metadata (metadata describing the sample source and submitter)
2. **SRA** metadata (metadata describing the sequence data collection)



BioSample metadata template

- 2 **Templates for BioSample submission:**

Laboratories can choose one of the two following templates, offered in **Step 2.1** or **Step 2.2**.

Validation: Download and populate the appropriate template in **Step 2.1** or **Step 2.2**, then validate it here prior to NCBI submission: <https://gmvs.fda.gov/>

- 2.1 **NCBI Pathogen package**, customized for US labs doing enteric surveillance, including GenomeTrakr labs. This template has been widely used since 2013.



GT-pathogen package v0.3.0.xlsx

- 2.2 **One Health Enteric Package:** new metadata package available now for US labs doing enteric surveillance, including GenomeTrakr labs:

Custom, version-controlled template(s) available for download here: [OHE GitHub page](#).

- Our custom templates include extensive guidance and controlled vocabularies for most attributes.
- Sub-packages are available for download covering the major One Health samples types (human/animal hosts, food, food facilities, and farm/environment). Users can choose to populate the full package, or one more more of the sub-packages.

A generic version of this template was [published by NCBI](#) in 2022.

SRA sequence metadata template

3 Template for SRA metadata submission:

Download the generic "[Metadata spreadsheet with sample names](#)" file from the NCBI Submission Templates page:

<https://submit.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/templates/>

And follow the guidance in the following table:

PRO TIPS:

1. If you have sequences to submit that belong to more than one BioProject, create a separate submission + metadata table for each of your BioProjects.
2. *Entering fastq filenames in the spreadsheet:* On a Mac, you can directly copy the file names from the folder into a spreadsheet. This is not possible on a PC using copy and paste but can be done with some command-line operation.
3. Finally, it is important to develop a QA/QC step to make sure the files are associated with the correct sample name. For example, use a left function in excel to strip of the appended text in the file name and then use the exact match to make sure the name matches the sample name.

3.1

A	B	C
Field	Description	Example
sample_name	Include the same ID here as you entered for "sample_name" in the BioSample submission template. Populate this field using the values in the PHA4GE specification for "specimen collector sample ID".	UT-12345
library_ID	The library name should be a unique ID relevant to your workflow. It can be an autogenerated ID from your LIMS system or a modification of your sample_name. Populate this field using the values in the PHA4GE specification for "library_id".	UT-12345.6
Title	Short, free text description that identifies the data on public pages. For Example: {methodology} of {organism}: {sample_name}	WGS of Salmonella enterica: UT-12345
library_strategy	Overall sequencing strategy or approach. Choose from NCBI pick list	See NCBI SRA pick list. (e.g. WGS)
library_source	molecule type used to make the library	See NCBI SRA pick list. (e.g. Genomic)
library_selection	Library capture method	See NCBI SRA pick list. (e.g. random, PCR)
Library_layout	Choose from NCBI pick list	See NCBI SRA pick list, choose "paired"
platform	Sequencing platform	See NCBI SRA pick list. (e.g., Illumina).
instrument_model	Name of the sequencing instrument.	See NCBI SRA pick list. (e.g. Illumina MiSeq, iSeq 100)
Design_description	Free text description of methods	
Filetype	File format name for the raw sequence data Choose from NCBI pick list	See NCBI SRA pick list. (e.g. Fastq)



A	B	C
Filename	include ALL of the files resulting from this library. **Add additional fields if there are more than two files (e.g. Filename3). Populate this field using the values in the PHA4GE specification for "r1 fastq filename".	genome_r1.fastq (*must be exact)
Filename2	genome_r2.fastq (*must be exact) Populate this field using the values in the PHA4GE specification for "r2 fastq filename".	genome_r2.fastq (*must be exact)
Filename3-8	list other fastq file names (e.g. for NextSeq data)	

Save the second sheet (SRA_data) as a TSV (tab-delimited file) for upload in the "SRA metadata" tab within the submission portal.

*NCBI should also accept the original excel formatted file.