

Mar 18, 2020 Version 2

## NCBI submission protocol for microbial pathogen surveillance V.2

DOI

[dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bdvii64e](https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bdvii64e)

Ruth Timme<sup>1</sup>, Maria Balkey<sup>2</sup>, Robyn Randolph<sup>3</sup>, Sai Laxmi Gubbala Venkata<sup>4</sup>, William Wolfgang<sup>5</sup>, Errol Strain<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>US Food and Drug Administration;

<sup>2</sup>Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, College Park, Maryland, USA;

<sup>3</sup>Center for Veterinary Medicine, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, College Park, Maryland, USA;

<sup>4</sup>Bacteriology Laboratory, Wadsworth Center, New York State Department of Health, Albany, New York, USA;

<sup>5</sup>Wadsworth Center NYSDOH

GenomeTrakr

Tech. support email: [genomeTrakr@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:genomeTrakr@fda.hhs.gov)



Ruth Timme

US Food and Drug Administration

OPEN  ACCESS



DOI: [dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bdvii64e](https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bdvii64e)

**Protocol Citation:** Ruth Timme, Maria Balkey, Robyn Randolph, Sai Laxmi Gubbala Venkata, William Wolfgang, Errol Strain 2020. NCBI submission protocol for microbial pathogen surveillance. **protocols.io**

<https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bdvii64e>

### Manuscript citation:

Timme, RE, Wolfgang, WJ, Balkey, M, Venkata, SLG, Randolph, R, Allard, M, Strain, E. Optimizing open data to support OneHealth: Best practices to ensure interoperability of genomic data from microbial pathogens. In prep.

**License:** This is an open access protocol distributed under the terms of the **Creative Commons Attribution License**, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited

**Protocol status:** Working

This protocol is in pilot phase. It has been fully tested by three laboratories and is actively being tested by six others. Please comment if you find errors or steps that need clarification. Our pilot phase will extend through April, so expect minor updates though this process.

**Created:** March 18, 2020



**Last Modified:** November 10, 2021

**Protocol Integer ID:** 34442

**Keywords:** NCBI submission, WGS, pathogen surveillance, GenomeTrakr

## Disclaimer

Please note that this protocol is public domain, which supersedes the CC-BY license default used by protocols.io.

## Abstract

**PURPOSE:** Step-by-step instructions for submitting WGS microbial pathogen sequence data to NCBI and to the NCBI Pathogen Detection portal.

**SCOPE:** to provide a standardized protocol for NCBI submission for use by any other laboratory submitting WGS data for species under active surveillance within NCBI's Pathogen Detection. (This includes GenomeTrakr, NARMS, Vet-LIRN laboratories and other networks).

This protocol covers the following submission procedures:

- Create new BioProjects
- BioSample/metadata submission
- Sequence submission

## Before start

There are a couple benefits to having the BioSample set up prior to submitting sequences, especially for new submitters to NCBI. Establishing the BioSample separately from uploading sequences allows you to upload available metadata for a large collection of isolates before they have been sequenced, which is common when sequencing historic collections. Also, submitting your BioSamples first, then submitting your sequence data separates the validation and troubleshooting at NCBI – enabling you to focus on errors for one database, rather than two. For these reasons we recommend starting with separating biosample and sequence submissions.

As users gain confidence, they can try the single step submission on smaller batches of samples. In cases where only a limited number of samples are going to be submitted (~a dozen or fewer samples under a single BioProject), it is possible to create the BioSample and submit sequence data in a single submission. This method can save time and effort by initiating a single submission vs two. However, validation issues can often hold up the entire submission, which could be complex to untangle for new users.

## "Ingredients" to have in place before starting your submissions

- 1 **Bookmark NCBI's general submission instructions** for the Pathogen Detection portal. These can supplement steps in this protocol:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pathogens/submit-data/>

- 1.1 **Create an NCBI user account** at NCBI: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/account>

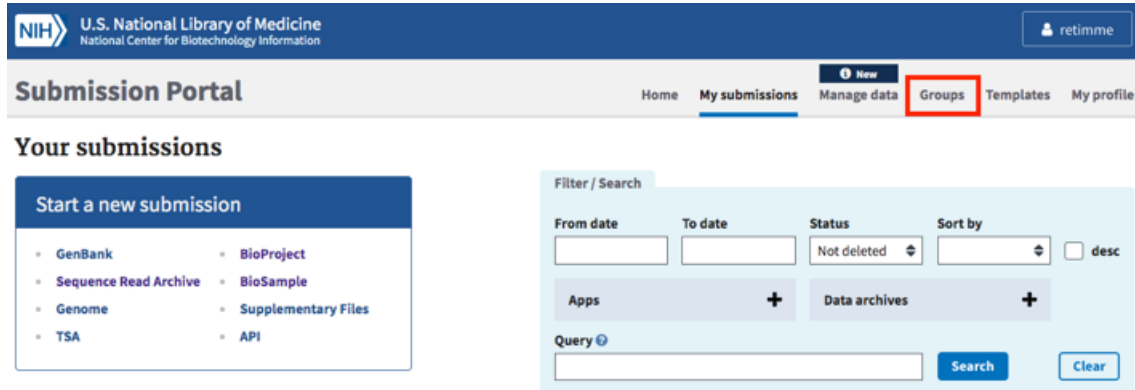


- 1.2 **Create an NCBI submission user group** for your laboratory. This will allow multiple people to have edit privileges for your NCBI data submissions (multiple people could edit/retract data). This is highly recommended.

Submit a request via email to [submit-help@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](mailto:submit-help@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov) containing the following information:

- Short name of the group (abbreviation, e.g. FDA-CFSAN)
- Full name of the group (The FDA-CFSAN GenomeTrakr submission group)
- Contact email(s) to start the group
- Institution and department or group
- Physical address including country
- Primary contact person first and last name and email. You can also provide an optional phone number.

**Editing a user group.** After a user group has been established you can freely edit membership by clicking in the “group” tab of the submission portal, <https://submit.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/subs> where you will find the list of groups containing your membership. You can add /delete members from groups for which you are an owner or have edit privileges.



- 1.3 **Bookmark “my submissions”** at NCBI: <https://submit.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/subs>. This is your landing page for all new NCBI submissions.

If you see a blank page with a yellow box in the upper right corner saying “please login”, click this link and login using the credentials created in 1.2.



**1.4 Umbrella BioProjects.** If you are already part of a surveillance network, e.g. GenomeTrakr, you should use one of their established umbrella bioprojects. Here are the GenomeTrakr Umbrella BioProjects for each species under surveillance.

- *Salmonella enterica* PRJNA183844
- *Listeria monocytogenes* PRJNA514048
- *Escherichia coli* and *Shigella* PRJNA230919
- *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* PRJNA245885
- *Campylobacter* sp. PRJNA258021
- *Clostridium botulinum* PRJNA290488

If you need to establish a new umbrella BioProject follow the BioProject creation in **Step 2** with modifications for creating a new Umbrella BioProject, then email the PRJNA accession to **pd-help@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov** and ask to have it flagged for submission to the Pathogen Detection pipeline. Any new data projects linked under this umbrella will inherit the linkage to Pathogen Detection.

## 1.5 Download submission templates:

Link for all submission templates: <https://submit.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/templates>

**Metadata:** Download the metadata spreadsheet needed for creating new biosample accessions. This document is called the “combined pathogen package template” at NCBI:

- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/biosample/docs/templates/packages/Pathogen.combined.1.0.xlsx>

**Sequence files:** Ensure your raw sequencing files were generated from an Illumina platform instrument (MiSeq, NextSeq, HiSeq, etc.) and download SRA's batch metadata table:

- [ftp://ftp-trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/metadata\\_table/SRA\\_metadata\\_acc.xlsx](ftp://ftp-trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/metadata_table/SRA_metadata_acc.xlsx)

**Combined BioSample/SRA submission** (SRA template for submitting BioSample AND SRA within the same submission):

- [ftp://ftp-trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/metadata\\_table/SRA\\_metadata.xlsx](ftp://ftp-trace.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/metadata_table/SRA_metadata.xlsx)

## BioProject Creation

### 2 Create a new BioProject

Would you like your new BioProject linked to the GenomeTrakr network (relevant for foodborne pathogens)?

- **YES:** Proceed to **Step 2.1**, following instructions for creating new data BioProject(s) and link them to the established GenomeTrakr Umbrella BioProjects, which are already flagged for NCBI Pathogen Detection.
- **NO:** Are you part of another broad surveillance effort that might already have existing Umbrella BioProjects (e.g. Vet-LIRN, or NARMS)?

**YES:** Proceed to **Step 2.1**, following instructions for creating new data BioProject(s).

**NO:** Proceed to **Step 2.1**, following instructions for creating a new Umbrella **and** data BioProjects.

If you already have data BioProjects established, gather the relevant accessions and proceed to **Step 3**.

#### 2.1

**Navigate to the "My Submissions" page**, <https://submit.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/subs>, and click "BioProject" in the "Start a new submission" box.



NIH U.S. National Library of Medicine  
National Center for Biotechnology Information

Submission Portal

Home My submissions Manage data Groups Templates My profile

Your submissions

Start a new submission

- GenBank
- Sequence Read Archive
- Genome
- TSA
- BioProject**
- BioSample
- Supplementary Files
- API

Filter / Search

From date To date Status Sort by

Apps + Data archives +

Query Search Clear

96,398 submissions

Submission	Title	App	Group	Status	Updated
SUB6510311	UI-less submission 2019-11-04	API	fda	✓ BioSample: Processed Successfully loaded SAMN13192483 (TaxID: 1639)	07:15

## 2.2 Click the “New submission” box:

NIH U.S. National Library of Medicine  
National Center for Biotechnology Information

Submission Portal

Home My submissions Manage data Groups Templates My profile

BioProject New submission

ATTN: to update an existing record or recent submission, please email your request with your BioProject ID or Submission ID included. Do not create new submission to update an existing submission!

Short description and brief instructions +

Filter / Search

From date To date Status Sort by

Data archives +

Query Search Clear

187 submissions

Submission	Title	Group	Status	Updated
SUB320199	Listeria monocytogenes Database: isolates from FDA-CFSAN	fda	✓ BioProject: Processed PRJNA215355 : Listeria monocytogenes Database: isolates from FDA-CFSAN (TaxID: 1639) locustagprefix.txt	Nov 03

## 2.3 Submitter tab:

Populate with submitter info. The “submitter” is the name of the person who is physically doing the submissions, not a supervisor or PI.

Select the appropriate submission group name (see **Step 1.2** for creating a new submission group), and describe the submitting organization or laboratory name. This will be auto-populated from the contact info you included in your NCBI user account.

## 2.4 **Project type tab:**

Project data type: Genome sequencing and assembly.

Sample scope:

- For a **Data BioProject**: select multi-isolate. This will allow you to submit multiple isolates or strains of the same species.
- For an **Umbrella BioProject**: select multi-species. This will allow you to link multiple data BioProjects representing different species under a single umbrella.

## 2.5 **Target tab:**

- For a **Data BioProject**: Populate ONLY the Organism name here, usually Genus species, or just Genus if your laboratory does not determine species, e.g., *Salmonella enterica*. Leave the strain info and Description fields blank.
- For an **Umbrella BioProject**: Leave the Organism name field blank. Include a list or description of species you intend to include in this effort. E.g. "bacterial foodborne pathogens", or "*Salmonella enterica*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, and *E.coli*"

## 2.6 **General info tab:**

Click "Release immediately following processing".

Include a brief title describing the effort.

- **Data BioProject Title**: e.g., "GenomeTrakr Project: NY State Dept. of Health, Wadsworth Center".
- **Umbrella BioProject Title**: e.g. "Microbial pathogen surveillance at NY State Dept. of Health, Wadsworth Center."

Public Description: e.g., "Whole genome sequencing of pure-cultured microbial pathogens as part of XXXX surveillance effort."

Relevance: medical.

Is your project part of a larger initiative which is already registered at NCBI?

- Data BioProjects. Click "Yes" and include a brief description and umbrella BioProject accession number (see 5.1.5). This will properly link your data project to the umbrella.





- for an Umbrella BioProject: click “NO” External links: Include a link to your laboratory's website here.

**BioProject submission: SUB6519692**

foodborne pathogens Genome sequencing and assembly

[Delete submission](#)**1 SUBMITTER** **2 PROJECT TYPE** **3 TARGET** **4 GENERAL INFO** **5 BIOSAMPLE** **6 PUBLICATIONS** **7 REVIEW & SUBMIT****General Info**

Required fields are marked with \* asterisk

**Release date**

**Note:** Release of BioProject or BioSample is also triggered by the release of linked data.

★ When should this submission be released to the public?

- ☒ Release immediately following processing  
☐ Release on specified date or upon publication, whichever is first

★ Project title

GenomeTrakr Project: Kentucky Department for Public Health

★ Public description

Whole genome sequencing of cultured Salmonella enterica as part of the US Food and Drug Administration's WGS surveillance effort for the rapid traceback of foodborne pathogens.

Relevance

Medical

★ Is your project part of a larger initiative which is already registered with NCBI?

- ☐ No ☒ Yes (not very common)

★ Initiative description

GenomeTrakr network

★ BioProject accession

PRJNA183844

If you are registering a project that is part of an initiative which is already registered in the BioProject database, then please tell us the existing BioProject accession and provide a general description of the larger initiative. For example, the ENCODE project and Human Microbiome project have several subprojects. This information is needed for project linking.

**External Links**

Description

Kentucky Department for Public Health - Division of Lab

URL

https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dls/Pages/default.asp

Delete

[Add another link](#)

**2.7 BioSample tab:**

Leave blank!! You will create biosamples separately.

**2.8 Publications tab:**

If relevant, include publications from your laboratory.

**2.9 Review and Submit tab:**

Check if everything looks correct and edit if necessary, then click “**submit.**”



- 2.10 **The BioProject accession** will be available on the “my submissions” page of the Submission portal and usually starts with “PRJNAxxxxxx.” You will also receive an email containing the new accession.

NIH U.S. National Library of Medicine  
National Center for Biotechnology Information

Submission Portal

Home My submissions Manage data Groups Templates My profile

Your submissions

Start a new submission

- GenBank
- Sequence Read Archive
- Genome
- TSA
- BioProject
- BioSample
- Supplementary Files
- API

Filter / Search

From date To date Status Not deleted Sort by desc

Apps + Data archives +

Query Search Clear

92,767 submissions

Submission	Title	App	Group	Status	Updated
SUB320154	GenomeTrakr Project: Minnesota Department of Health	BioProject	file	BioProject: Processed	16:22

PRJNA215333 : GenomeTrakr Project: Minnesota Department of Health (TaxID: 28901)  
locustagprefix.txt

- 2.11 **For Umbrella BioProjects creation only:**

The last step for establishment is to email [bioprojecthelp@ncbi.nlm.nih](mailto:bioprojecthelp@ncbi.nlm.nih) and [pd-help@ncbi.nlm.nih](mailto:pd-help@ncbi.nlm.nih) with two requests.

Example email:

*“Dear BioProject and PD help teams, please convert the PRJNA##### to an Umbrella Bioproject and flag it for inclusion in the Pathogen Detection pipeline. Our laboratory will be submitting data under the XXX effort (GenomeTrakr, Vet-LIRN, NARMS, HAI, or more general pathogen surveillance).*

*I'd be happy to provide any additional details you might need.*

*Thank you, ”*

After the conversion is complete you can use the accession created to properly link any new data BioProjects being created, as in Step 2.6.

- 2.12 If you are part of a coordinated surveillance effort, like GenomeTrakr, please alert the coordinating body that a new bioproject was created under an existing umbrella (e.g, email [GenomeTrakr@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:GenomeTrakr@fda.hhs.gov)).

## BioSample creation

### 3 BioSample/metadata submission:



To register new BioSamples navigate to the “My Submissions” page (<https://submit.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/subs>) and click “BioSample” in the “Start a new submission” box (or navigate directly here: <https://submit.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/subs/biosample/>):

U.S. National Library of Medicine  
National Center for Biotechnology Information

Submission Portal

Home My submissions Manage data Groups Templates My profile

Your submissions

Start a new submission

- GenBank
- Sequence Read Archive
- Genome
- TSA
- BioProject
- BioSample**
- Supplementary Files
- API

Filter / Search

From date To date Status Sort by

Not deleted desc

Apps + Data archives +

Query Search Clear

96,398 submissions

Submission Title App Group Status Updated

### 3.1 Have you downloaded the metadata template?

If you don't already have the combined pathogen metadata excel template:

1. Click on “Download batch submission template:

U.S. National Library of Medicine  
National Center for Biotechnology Information

Submission Portal

Home My sub

BioSample New submission Download batch submission template

Note: to update an existing record or recent submission, please email your request.

Short description and brief instructions +

Filter / Search

From date To date

Data archives

Query Search Clear

657 submissions

Submission	Title	Group	Status
SUB4427776	Pathogen: environmental/food/other sample	fda	✓ BioSample: Processed (3 responses) Download attributes file with BioSample accessions
SUB4377107	Pathogen: combined sample	fda	✓ BioSample: Processed Successfully loaded (60 objects) Download attributes file with BioSample accessions
SUB4277822	Pathogen: clinical or host-associated sample	fda	✓ BioSample: Processed (2 responses) Download attributes file with BioSample accessions
SUB4246450	Pathogen: environmental/food/other sample from Salmonella enterica subsp. enterica serovar Mbandaka	fda	✓ BioSample: Processed Successfully loaded SAMN09537686 : CFSAN082805 (TaxID: 192954)
SUB3855351	Pathogen: environmental/food/other sample	fda	✓ BioSample: Processed (3 responses) Download attributes file with BioSample accessions

2. Select the “Pathogen affecting public health” and the appropriate package depending on the type of isolates. We recommend using the combined template for simplicity.

★ Select the package that best describes your samples:

☒ **Pathogen affecting public health**  
Use for pathogen samples that are relevant to public health. Required attributes include those considered useful for the rapid analysis and trace back of pathogens.

☐ Clinical or host-associated pathogen

☐ Environmental, food or other pathogen

☒ **Combined pathogen submission**  
Helper template for batch submissions that include both clinical and environmental samples. In the "attribute\_package" field, specify either "Pathogen.cl" (for clinical or host-associated pathogen) or "Pathogen.env" (for environmental, food or other pathogen). Note that mandatory attributes are not completely represented in the template at this time, please refer to the clinical and environmental package definitions for requirements.

Populate the metadata spreadsheet for each isolate you intend to submit (you can submit metadata for a single MiSeq run, or for a large collection of isolates you intend to sequence).

Ensure that text is included for **ALL** mandatory fields. Include the word “missing, or “not collected” if data are not available for a given mandatory field (see **Table 3** in the main document for the core set of required fields – you are welcome, and encouraged, to include more metadata in the optional fields).

### 3.2 Click the “New submission” box.

NIH U.S. National Library of Medicine  
National Center for Biotechnology Information

**Submission Portal**

BioSample [New submission](#) [Download batch submission template](#)


**Note:** to update an existing record or recent submission, please [email your request](#).

Short description and brief instructions

### 3.3 Submitter tab:

Populate with submitter info. The “submitter” is the name of the person who is physically doing the submissions, not a supervisor or PI. Select the appropriate submission group name (see **Step 1.2** for creating a new submission group), and describe the submitting

organization or laboratory name. This will be auto-populated from the contact info you included in your NCBI user account. Click "continue" to proceed.


**U.S. National Library of Medicine**  
 National Center for Biotechnology Information

Submission Portal

**BioSample submission: SUB6089412**  
 New

1 SUBMITTER 2 GENERAL INFO 3 SAMPLE TYPE 4 ATTRIBUTES 5 DESCRIPTION 6 REVIEW & SUBMIT

### Submitter

★ First (given) name
 Middle name
 ★ Last (family) name

Ruth
 
 Timme

★ Email (primary)
 Email (secondary)

ruth.timme@fda.hhs.gov

At least one email should be from the organization's domain.

Group for this submission
 

☐ No group (affiliation from my personal profile)

☒ 12 members FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition ([edit group](#))  
 Anjanette Johnston, Yan Luo, Errol Strain, Justin Payne, Narjol Gonzalez-Escalona, Hugh Rand, maria sanchez, fda service, Maria Hoffmann, Jayanthi Gangiredla, Julie Haendiges, you

☐ 7 members FDA/CFSAN/NY\_State ([edit group](#))

☐ 6 members FDA/CFSAN/MDH ([edit group](#))

★ Submitting organization
 Submitting organization URL
 ★ Department

US Food and Drug Administration
 http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodScienceRes
 CFSAN-ORS-DM-MMSB

Phone
 Fax

2404025127

★ Street
 ★ City
 ★ State/Province
 ★ Postal code
 ★ Country

5100 Paint Branch Parkway
 College Park
 MD
 20740
 USA

Continue

☒ Update my contact information in profile

### 3.4 General Info tab:

For real-time surveillance efforts you should click "release immediately following processing" (e.g. GenomeTrakr). Click the "Batch/Multiple BioSamples" option to upload the metadata spreadsheet.



## BioSample submission: SUB6089412

New

1 SUBMITTER 2 GENERAL INFO 3 SAMPLE TYPE 4 ATTRIBUTES 5 DESCRIPTION 6 REVIEW & SUBMIT

### General Information

#### Release date

**Note:** Release of BioProject or BioSample is also triggered by the release of linked data.

★ When should this submission be released to the public?

- ☒ Release immediately following processing  
☐ Release on specified date or upon publication, whichever is first

★ Specify if you are submitting a single sample or a file containing multiple samples

- ☒ Batch/Multiple BioSamples  
You will be asked to upload a tab-delimited text file that describes each of your samples and their attributes. Submission template files can be downloaded from the Attributes tab or the [templates page](#).  
☐ Single BioSample  
You will be asked to manually complete a web form to describe one sample and its attributes.

Continue

### 3.5 Sample Type tab:

Click Pathogen affecting public health, combined pathogen submission (or "Environmental, food or other pathogen" if no clinical isolates).

### 3.6 Attributes tab:

Click "upload a file using Excel" then "browse" to navigate to upload file.

**Please provide antibiogram data if you have it!**

### 3.7 Review and Submit tab:

Check over your submission for errors by clicking on hyperlink, then submit.

### 3.8 BioSample accessions

will be available on the "my submissions" page of the Submission portal by clicking on "## objects" within the submission record. You can also download by clicking the "Download attributes file with BioSample accessions". Accessions will start with SAMNxxxxxxxx. You will also receive an email within 12 hours with these same accessions.

The screenshot shows the BioSample submission interface. At the top, there are links for "New submission" and "Download batch submission template". A note indicates that to update an existing record or recent submission, users should email [submit\\_help@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](mailto:submit_help@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov). Below this is a section for "Short description and brief instructions".

The main content area displays a list of submissions. The first submission is titled "Pathogen: environmental/food/other sample" with ID "SUD442776". To the right of this list, a detailed view of a submission is shown, including a "Filter / Search" section with fields for "From date", "To date", "Status" (set to "Not deleted"), and "Sort by". Below these are "Data archives" and a "Query" field with "Search" and "Clear" buttons.

The submission details show a "Status" of "BioSample: Processed (3 responses)". It includes a message: "Provided taxonomy information was revised according to NCBI Taxonomy database rules. Please contact [submit\\_help@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](mailto:submit_help@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov) if you have any questions." Below this is a list of 24 objects, each with a SAMN ID and a CFAS ID. For example, "SAMN0986068 : CFAS001649". At the bottom, it states "Successfully loaded (24 objects)" and "These attribute values are not valid. An automatically-generated correction will be applied. (11 objects)". A link to "Download attributes file with BioSample accessions" is provided.

## Sequence data submission

### 4 Sequence submission

Navigate to the "My Submissions" page (<https://submit.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/subs>) and click "Sequence Read Archive" in the "Start a new submission" box:

The screenshot shows the NIH Submission Portal. The header includes the NIH logo and "U.S. National Library of Medicine National Center for Biotechnology Information". A "rettime" button is in the top right. The main navigation bar includes "Home", "My submissions", "Manage data", "Groups", "Templates", and "My profile".

The "Your submissions" section features a "Start a new submission" box. Inside this box, there are several options: "GenBank", "BioProject", "Sequence Read Archive" (highlighted with a red box), "BioSample", "Genome", "Supplementary Files", "TSA", and "API".

To the right of the "Start a new submission" box is a "Filter / Search" section with fields for "From date", "To date", "Status" (set to "Not deleted"), and "Sort by". Below these are "Apps" and "Data archives" sections, each with a "+" button. At the bottom of the search section is a "Query" field with "Search" and "Clear" buttons.

At the bottom of the page, there is a pagination bar showing "96,398 submissions" and a list of page numbers from 1 to 9, followed by "3,853", "3,854", "3,855", and "3,856".

#### 4.1 Populate SRA's batch metadata table, downloaded from **Step 1.5**



If you have sequences to submit that belong to more than one BioProject, create a separate table for each of your BioProjects. We recommend using the sample name for the library ID so that you can copy and paste the biosample and sample name from the csv file returned from NCBI after the Biosample submission. This should help preserve the correct link between a biosample name and the sample as we create this second metadata sheet. (this would not be necessary in a single step submission).

Entering fastq filenames in the spreadsheet: On a Mac you can directly copy the files 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.

Finally it is important to develop a QA/QC step to make sure the files are associated with the correct sample name. We do this using left function in excel to strip of the appended text in the file name and then use exact match to make sure the name matches the sample name.

Field	Description
BioSample	BioSample accession (SAMN#####)
Library ID	unique name for library (can be ID from LIMS)
Title	Free Text - GenomeTrakr looks like this, "Nextera XT library SEQ0000#####"
Instrument	Illumina MiSeq (or other Illumina instrument)
Strategy	WGS
Source	GENOMIC
selection	RANDOM
Layout	PAIRED
Platform:	Choose from the dropdown menu. e.g. MiSeq
Design_description	Free text. e.g. "MiSeq deep shotgun sequencing of cultured isolate"
Filetype	fastq
Filename	genome_r1.fastq (*must be exact)



Filename2	genome_r2.fastq (*must be exact)
Filename3-8	list other fastq file names for NextSeq data

Save 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.

#### 4.2 Click “New Submission” button at the top of the page:

NIH U.S. National Library of Medicine  
National Center for Biotechnology Information

Submission Portal

Sequence Read Archive (SRA) **New submission**

Short description and brief instructions

Options to preload data:

Aspera browser plugin upload

Aspera command line and FTP upload options

Amazon S3 instructions

Filter / Search

From date To date Status Not deleted Sort by desc

Data archives

Query Search Clear

Submission	Title	Group	Status	Updated
SUB5610822	GenomeTrakr Project: US Food and Drug Administration, May 14 '19	ida	✓ SRA: Processed (2 objects) Download metadata file with SRA accessions View and manage my SRA submission data	May 14
SUB5110190	GenomeTrakr Project: Bacillus cereus, New York State Department of Health, Wadsworth Center, Jan 31 '19	ida_my	✓ SRA: Processed (6 objects) Download metadata file with SRA accessions View and manage my SRA submission data	Jan 31

#### 4.3 **Submitter tab:**

Populate with personal and institutional information. The “submitter” is the name of the person who is physically doing the submissions, not a supervisor or PI. Select the appropriate submission group name (see **Step 1.2** for creating a new submission group), and describe the submitting organization or laboratory name. This will be auto-populated from the contact info you included in your NCBI user account.

#### 4.4 **General tab:**

Click yes for existing Bioproject and paste or type in your **data** BioProject accession.

**\*\*HINT:** group your submissions by BioProject since you can only specify one BP accession here.

Click **yes** for existing BioSamples.

Click **“release immediately after processing”**



U.S. National Library of Medicine  
National Center for Biotechnology Information

Submission Portal

**Sequence Read Archive (SRA) submission: SUB6089445**  
New

1 SUBMITTER

2 GENERAL

3 METADATA

4 FILES

5 REVIEW & SUBMIT

General Information

BioProject

BioProject describes the goal of your research effort.

Did you already register a BioProject for this research, e.g. for the submission of the reads to SRA and/or of the genome to GenBank?

☒ Yes ☐ No

★ Existing BioProject

[PRJNA186035](#)    GenomeTrakr Project: US Food and Drug Administration Clear field

Organization: Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition

BioSample

The BioSample records the detailed biological and physical properties of the sample that was sequenced. A BioSample can be used in more than one BioProject since it should be used for all the data that were obtained from that sample. Usually SRA data sets are generated from more than one sample.

Did you already register a BioSample for this sample, e.g. for the submission of the reads to SRA and/or of the genome to GenBank?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Release date

**Note:** Release of BioProject or BioSample is also triggered by the release of linked data.

★ When should this submission be released to the public?

☒ Release immediately following processing

☐ Release on specified date or upon publication, whichever is first

Please allow 24-48 hours for propagation of the data to the NCBI SRA public site.

Continue

#### 4.5 **Metadata tab:**

Click “Upload a file using Excel or text format (tab-delimited)” and “choose file” saved in **Step 4.1.**

#### 4.6 **Files tab:**

Check and resolve any validation errors

#### 4.7 ***File upload:***

You can provide files for submission by:

- Web browser upload via HTTP or Aspera Connect plugin: Recommended for small batches. The upload is done directly in the GUI interface.
- FTP or Aspera Command Line file preload: Use this option if you are uploading files over 10 GB or more than 300 files. Requires beginner experience with command line. Obtain FTP and Aspera upload instructions in the submission FILES tab. It will include ftp address, username and password.
- Amazon S3 bucket.

#### 4.8 ***Review and Submit tab:***

Check over entire submission, then click submit.

#### 4.9 **SRA Accessions:**

SRA run accessions will be available on the "my submissions" page of the Submission portal by clicking on "## objects" within the submission record. You can also download by clicking the "Download metadata file with SRA accession". Accessions will start with SRRxxxxxxx." You will also receive an email with these same accessions within 24 hours.

U.S. National Library of Medicine  
National Center for Biotechnology Information

retimme

Submission Portal

Home
My submissions
Manage data
Groups
Templates
My profile

Sequence Read Archive (SRA)

New submission

Short description and brief instructions
Options to preload data:
Aspera browser plugin upload
Aspera command line and FTP upload options
Amazon S3 instructions

Filter / Search

From date
To date
Status
Sort by

Data archives

Query
Search
Clear

30 submissions

← previous 1 2 next →

Submission	Title	Group	Status	Updated
SUB5616822	GenomeTrakr Project: US Food and Drug Administration, May 14 '19	fda	<div>✓ SRA: Processed</div> <div>(2 objects)</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SRR9052981</li> <li>SRR9052982</li> </ul> <div>Download metadata file with SRA accessions</div> <div>View and manage my SRA submission data</div>	May 14
SUB5110190	GenomeTrakr Project: Bacillus cereus, New York State Department of Health, Wadsworth Center, Jan 31 '19	fda_ny	<div>✓ SRA: Processed</div> <div>(6 objects)</div> <div>Download metadata file with SRA accessions</div> <div>View and manage my SRA submission data</div>	Jan 31
SUB5106005	GenomeTrakr Project: NY State Dept. of Health, Wadsworth Center, Jan 30 '19	fda_ny	<div>✓ SRA: Processed</div> <div>(20 objects)</div> <div>Download metadata file with SRA accessions</div> <div>View and manage my SRA submission data</div>	Jan 30