

# FIND SPECIMEN BANK

FIND manages collections of well-characterized disease samples to support commercial, non-profit and academic researchers in developing tools to improve the diagnosis of infectious diseases in low- and middle-income countries.

As both a partner and a supplier, we provide guidance in selecting the right samples and we support researchers in the development and validation of diagnostic tests.

**~500,000** samples collected from **more than 25,000** participants

in **40** global sites

Includes whole blood, serum, plasma, urine, sputum, saliva, DNA (bacterial), PAXgene tubes and culture isolates and more.

**~41,000** aliquots distributed between 2015-2020 to fulfil more than

**200** requests from diagnostic developers

## EXPLORE SAMPLE COLLECTIONS

FEVER

MALARIA

HEPATITIS C

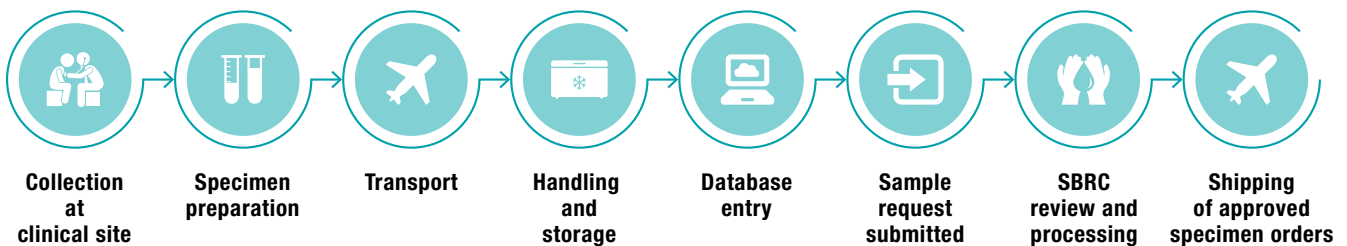
TUBERCULOSIS

COVID-19

AMR

FIND also contributes to the WHO collections for human African trypanosomiasis and leishmaniasis.

## PROVIDING AN ETHICAL, PROFESSIONAL & EFFICIENT SERVICE AT EVERY STEP



Collection takes place at qualified clinics under a protocol approved by an ethical review board and with informed consent from all participants. Samples are collected following good clinical and laboratory practices.

Requests are submitted **online**. Submissions are evaluated by a review committee and approved based on supporting evidence, relevance to public health, technological adaptability, and affordability.

Following approval, samples are **shipped worldwide**. Requesters cover only shipping costs and a small handling fee. FIND kindly asks that all users report back on data derived and share results with the scientific community.

We foster the ethical collection and use of fit-for-purpose, high-quality samples, when and where needed, to streamline the diagnostic development process. To achieve this, we work with local partners to build biobanking capacity across Africa, Southeast Asia, South America and Europe with a network of [integrated biobanks](#).

Available samples can be identified on the [DxConnect Virtual Biobank](#), an open access platform hosted by FIND. This resource offers a global view of infectious disease collections managed by organizations worldwide, including FIND, and allows users to connect directly with these organizations.

REQUEST SAMPLES

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**A SELECTION OF RELEVANT DEMOGRAPHIC, CLINICAL AND MICROBIOLOGICAL DATA IS PROVIDED WITH EVERY SPECIMEN.**

## FEVER

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The samples have been collected from adults and children with non-severe acute febrile illnesses. They are grouped by symptoms (respiratory, gastrointestinal, urinary tract and skin/join/mucosal infections) and have been characterized as bacterial or non-bacterial infections based on extensive laboratory testing.

Sample type	Characterization	Volume	Origin
Plasma EDTA	Bacterial infection with/without malaria co-infection	0.2 mL	Africa, Latin America
Plasma heparin		0.1 mL	Africa
Serum		0.2 mL	Africa, Latin America
Urine	Non-bacterial infection with/without malaria co-infection	1 mL	Africa, Latin America
Whole blood EDTA		0.5 mL	Africa, Latin America
Whole blood PAXgene tubes		1 mL	Africa, Latin America

## HEPATITIS C

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Clinical data, serology status and viral load as well as HIV and HBV infection status of the samples are available upon request.

Specimen type	Characterization	Volume	Location
Plasma, whole blood	Genotype 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	1 mL, 0.25 mL	Sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia, Europe, US
Plasma, whole blood	Negative	0.5 mL	Sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia, Europe, US
DBS	Genotype 1, 2, 3, 4	–	Sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia, Europe, US
Serum	Genotype 1, 2, 3, 4	0.5 mL	Sub-Saharan Africa, Southeast Asia, Europe, US

## MALARIA

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The samples have been collected from symptomatic and asymptomatic cases of varying parasite load.

Specimen type	Characterization	Volume	Origin
Whole blood	<b><i>P. falciparum</i></b> from symptomatic & asymptomatic subjects (HRP2-positives & HRP2-negatives)	0.2 mL	Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia
Whole blood	<b><i>P. vivax</i></b> from symptomatic & asymptomatic subjects	0.2 mL	Latin America, Southeast Asia
Whole blood	<b><i>P. malariae</i></b> from symptomatic & asymptomatic subjects	0.2 mL	Africa, Southeast Asia
Whole blood	<b><i>P. ovale</i></b> from asymptomatic subjects	0.2 mL	Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia
Whole blood	<b><i>P. spp.</i></b> –negative from matching collection areas	0.2 mL	Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia
Spiked whole blood	<b><i>P. knowlesi</i></b> culture isolates (A1.H1 line)	0.2 mL	Not applicable
Saliva	<b><i>P. falciparum</i></b> from symptomatic & asymptomatic subjects*	0.2 mL	Africa, Latin America
Saliva	<b><i>P. vivax</i></b> from symptomatic & asymptomatic subjects*	0.2 mL	Africa, Latin America
Saliva	<b><i>P. malariae</i></b> from symptomatic & asymptomatic subjects*	0.2 mL	Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia
Saliva	<b><i>P. ovale</i></b> from symptomatic subjects*	0.2 mL	Africa
Saliva	<b><i>P. spp.</i></b> –negative from matching collection areas*	0.2 mL	Africa, Latin America
Urine	<b><i>P. falciparum</i></b> from symptomatic & asymptomatic subjects	1 mL	Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia
Urine	<b><i>P. vivax</i></b> from symptomatic subjects	1 mL	Latin America
Urine	<b><i>P. malariae</i></b> from symptomatic & asymptomatic subjects*	1 mL	Africa, Southeast Asia
Urine	<b><i>P. spp.</i></b> –negative from matching collection areas	1 mL	Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia

\*Characterization is based on analysis of blood samples collected from the subjects.

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## TUBERCULOSIS

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The samples cover all strains of the disease (including multidrug-resistant and pre-XDR patients).

Specimen type	Characterization	Volume	Origin
Sputum	Smear+/- Culture+/-	0.5 mL	Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia
Serum	Smear+/- Culture+/-	0.5 mL	
Plasma EDTA	Smear+/- Culture+/-	0.5 mL	
Plasma P800	Smear+/- Culture+/-	0.5 mL	
Plasma (Streck)	Smear+/- Culture+/-	0.5 mL	
Urine	Smear+/- Culture+/-	3.5 mL	
Urine (Streck)	Smear+/- Culture+/-	3.5 mL	
Saliva	Smear+/- Culture+/-	0.5 mL	
PAXgene tubes	Smear+/- Culture+/-	2.5 mL	
Culture isolates	MDR/XDR (Smear+ Culture+specimens)	1 mL	

FIND also hosts a TB collection for the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases.

## COVID-19

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The samples have been collected from patients with positive and negative PCR test results for COVID-19. Future collections will see us move to incorporate regional diversity and include swab and whole-blood samples from vaccinated patients.

Specimen type	Characterization	Volume	Origin
Nasal swab	SARS-Cov-2 Positive SARS-Cov-2 Negative	0.18 mL (medium)	Peru
Oropharyngeal swab		0.18 mL (medium)	
Saliva		0.22 mL	
Plasma		0.22 mL	
Whole blood		0.22 mL	
Serum		0.22 mL, 1 mL	
PaxGene		2.5 mL	
PBMC		1 mL	
DBS card		-	

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