

MOU for international genotype comparison research project:

- No data of information provided by any party in this project shall be shared with any third party without the express written permission of the party providing the initial information.
- All information provided by any participant remains the property of the participant providing it.
- All participants retain the right to withdraw data either partially or in its entirety from the research project if they wish.

Study Design:

- We will undertake an international research project examining the endemicity of bacterial genotypes between geographically separated countries. The fundamental research question is whether bacterial pathogens are actually separated or restricted by geographical boundaries (endemic) or whether in fact, even at the genotype level, strains are distributed worldwide, and apparent differences are due to incomplete sampling or localized amplification of certain types.
- We will exchange large database files, comparing genotype data of particular species
- We will determine appropriate statistical assumptions and interpretations that underlie comparisons of genotypes between geographical regions. These will attempt to evaluate the probability that an indistinguishable match is due to a common source. This will need to be customized to each organism, and even to particular patterns within an organism.

Questions:

- Can we reliably compare large numbers of isolates with one enzyme, or do we need two enzyme data for comparisons?
- Can we generate a spreadsheet with NZ pattern/USA pattern (if present in USA database)?
- What is the relative prevalence of the different patterns?