

IRIS Policy Document

Updated 10 November 2022

1. The IRIS Consortium is assessing the incidence of invasive diseases caused by *S pneumoniae*, *H influenzae*, *N meningitidis* and *S agalactiae* before, during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. Routine laboratory-confirmed invasive disease infection data for these four organisms, submitted by national or regional reference labs in countries worldwide, is collected and analysed.
3. IRIS databases are set up as private projects in the respective *S pneumoniae*, *H influenzae*, *Neisseria* and *S agalactiae* PubMLST databases (<https://pubmlst.org/iris/>)
4. Data are private and databases holding these data are accessible only to IRIS participants via login and password.
5. Funding for the IRIS databases is provided by the Wellcome Trust, which supports the PubMLST databases and infrastructure via a grant (grant number 218205/Z/19/Z) held by Co-PIs Prof Martin Maiden and Prof Angela Brueggemann at the University of Oxford.
6. The persons responsible for the site (hereafter the Management Team) are as follows:
 - a. The oversight committee: Prof Angela Brueggemann (Oxford), Dr Mark van der Linden (Germany), Prof Martin Maiden (Oxford) and Dr Keith Jolley (Oxford).
 - b. Website and database manager: Dr Keith Jolley
 - c. The above persons will not have any special privileges with regard to the analyses or publication of data compared to other users.
7. The laboratory submitting data to IRIS remains the owner of these data. To use unpublished data for publication purposes (eg conference presentations, internet presentations or journal publications), users of the database must obtain permission from the owner. The IRIS website must be acknowledged in all publications.
8. The preferred format of the acknowledgement is: 'This publication made use of the Invasive Respiratory Infections Surveillance (IRIS) website and databases (<https://pubmlst.org/iris/>). The development and maintenance of this site has been funded by the Wellcome Trust.'
9. Data from other users of the database may not be provided to a third party without permission of the owner of the data.
10. As stated in 6c above, the Management Team will not have special privileges to analyse unpublished data for research purposes without the prior consent of the data owners; however, the Management Team reserves the right to provide 'current status' information on the website or in review articles including broad breakdowns by, for example, serogroup and country.
11. Participants and data submission
 - a. No patient-identifiable information is accepted.
 - b. Multiple user accounts can be associated with an individual laboratory. Submissions can be made by any of these users and view access will be provided to all associated accounts.
 - c. Participants will be able to view data from the whole database. These data are only available to participants.
 - d. Data fields will largely be the same as the current PubMLST database fields for each organism (data submission templates found here: <https://pubmlst.org/iris/>)
 - e. Minimal data will be acceptable for submission, and the database entries can be updated with additional metadata and/or whole genome sequence data later if necessary.