



Guidelines for Dissemination of Streptococcus Isolates from the National Centre for Streptococcus

The National Centre for Streptococcus (NCS) acts as a repository for *Streptococcus* and *Enterococcus* isolates gathered from Canada and around the world. The NCS also performs various epidemiological typing protocols on isolates as well as examination of various phenotypic and genotypic characteristics. There are two types of isolates sent to the NCS for study. These are:

1. Isolates collected through passive surveillance throughout Canada and,
2. Those that are part of a study initiated by an outside investigator.

Those isolates that are part of a research study sent to the NCS through an outside investigator are not considered part of the NCS collection accessible to the public. To obtain these isolates, the initiating investigator of the study from which the isolates originally came must give permission for use. Isolates submitted as part of the passive surveillance system used by the NCS are considered a National Resource to be used by all investigators doing research in Canada provided the study undertaken is carried out by legitimate investigators and the study is disclosed to the NCS. In the request for strains, we require:

1. Purpose for request
2. Copy of the protocol of the study
3. Approval of NCS Director
4. Numbers of isolates requested
5. From what time period the isolates were to be collected
6. As applicable, other information to aid more specifically in the request such as serotypes etc.
7. Acknowledgments and or authorship on work arising from usage of isolates to be discussed upon initiation of request

If it is difficult to determine if the NCS deserves authorship on work arising from your study or an acknowledgement, ask yourself if the NCS contribution is removed from the manuscript or abstract, would it still be acceptable to a scientific journal or panel. If it is not acceptable, then a member of the NCS should be considered as an author.

Please note:

A cost is associated with shipping the isolates to the designated location. The investigator requesting the isolates will be responsible for these shipping costs.

For large numbers of organisms (greater than 10) a cost will also be assigned for retrieving and subculturing of these isolates in preparation for shipment.

It is the NCS wish that no reasonable request be refused and that all Canadians may profit from knowledge gained through the study of NCS organisms.