

**Case study for a tissue/cell biobank needing a simple tracking system:
University Hospital Cardiff**

Our biobank has an office location where the sample information is received, from here we record the samples that we are expecting into the bank over the next few days/weeks. We have a receiving room where samples are delivered to; from here we tie up the samples received with the information recorded within the office and decide on the next step of processing. This biobank has two processing rooms that process samples; each room performs a different process. Once the process has been completed the samples are transferred into a given box within a freezer within the freezer room.

Pro-curo is setup in the usual way but with several rooms called office, reviewing, process1, process2 and freezer room. For each location we created a barcode label via Pro-curo and applied them onto the door/bench within each relevant room. New sample records are created within Pro-curo before samples are received; the labels are printed off and stored with the relevant paperwork. When samples arrive into the receiving room, the labels are applied to the sample tubes, all the samples are scanned along with the location (receiving room) barcode using the portable barcode terminal. The samples are then sent to the relevant processing room, upon receipt of the samples the process room operator scans all the samples and scans the location (process room) barcode. The samples are then processed (at this point some processes require the samples to be split into smaller tubes and/or into different types of samples) once processed the samples move to the freezer room where the operator scans all the samples and then scans the box location barcode within the draw/rack/shelf/freezer that the sample/s will be stored in.

One of the best features for us is the history, when you look at the history of a sample you can clearly see at what time/date the sample was entered into the system within the office, when and by whom the samples was received in the receiving room, then who performed the processing (if a split process was performed and you are looking at a child you can see the parent samples id or if you are looking at the parent sample you can see all the child sample id's) and who moved the sample into the freezer and what shelf/rack/draw/box they are now stored in. In addition it is very obvious when viewing the history if a sample has missed part of the overall process or where the sample is in the overall process. Although we had a complicated process that the samples needed to go through Pro-curo had the ability to encompass what we needed to do without breaking our restricted budget

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