

BRIF SERVICES: THE CoBRA GUIDELINE

What is the guideline about?

The BRIF (*Bioresource Research Impact Factor*) initiative is building a framework that enables set up indicators for the use of bioresources* and rewarding mechanisms. Generated as part of the BRIF initiative, the CoBRA (*Citing of Bioresources in Research Articles*) guideline provides guidance for citing bioresources in academic literature: it specifies where and how to cite bioresources at each section of a research article.

BBMRI-ERIC encourages the systematic use of the CoBRA guideline by the biobank community and supports the inclusion in MTA/DTAs.

* Bioresources are defined as collections of biological samples with associated data (medical/epidemiological, social), databases independent of physical samples or other collection of biomolecular and bioinformatics research tools.

KEY ELEMENTS:

To report in scientific journal articles:

- ✓ **Abstract** section: Indicate whether the work has used one or more bioresources, and specify the number of bioresources if relevant.
- ✓ **Introduction** section: Indicate that the work has used one or more bioresources. Specify the type.
- ✓ **Methods** section: Report each individual bioresource used to perform the study: By their name and other ID, if extant, and by a single bibliographic reference.
- ✓ **References** section:

Cite each bioresource used as a reference as follows:

ID / Bioresource Name (acronym if available) / organisation or network partnership, membership (optional) / Number of access(es), Date of last access; [BIORESOURCE]

Cite each bioresources referred to (but not used) as a reference as follows:

ID / Bioresource Name (acronym if available) / organisation or network partnership, membership (optional)

Who is this guideline for?

The guideline is intended for any researcher or professional reporting on a research work using bioresources or referring to bioresources in a scientific journal article.

How can I engage?

Use the CoBRA checklist when writing a scientific article!

Download the CoBRA guideline at

<http://www.equator-network.org/reporting-guidelines/cobra/>

Who to contact?

laurence.mabile@univ-tlse3.fr (BRIF initiative manager)

elena.bravo@iss.it (CoBRA)

What is BBMRI-ERIC?

BBMRI-ERIC is a distributed research infrastructure of *biobanks* and *biomolecular resources*. For its Member States, it provides expertise and services on a non-economic basis and facilitates access to collections of partner biobanks and biomolecular resources. BBMRI-ERIC is established for an unlimited period of time.

Subscribe to our newsletter and e-newsflash & learn more at: <http://www.bbmri-eric.eu>

More information: <http://bmcmecine.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12916-015-0266-y>

Contact: laurence.mabile@univ-tlse3.fr (BRIF initiative manager) or elena.bravo@iss.it (CoBRA)

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