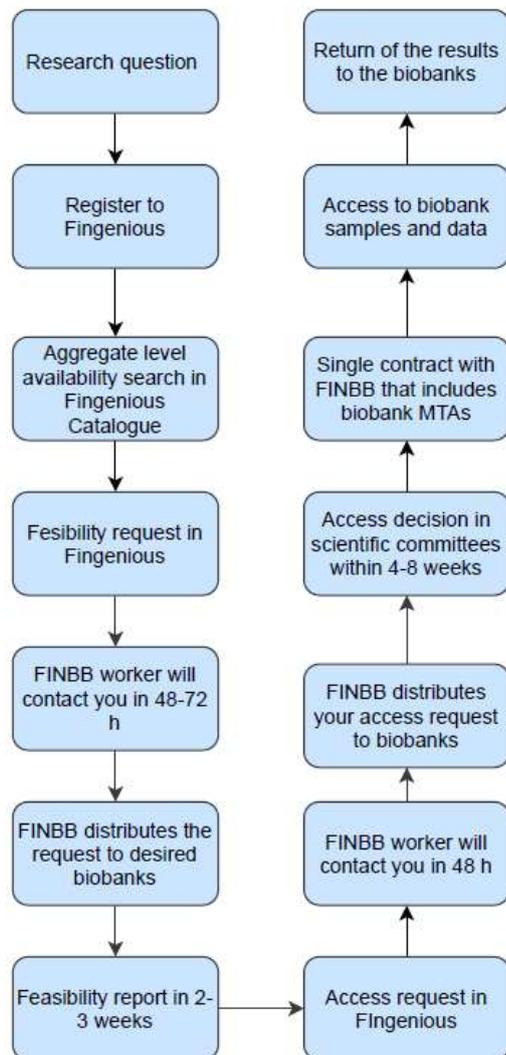


Biobank study feasibility and access request process

Updated: 2nd Jan 2020

For biobank studies concerning multiple hospital biobanks, coordinated by FINBB



1. Register in Fingenious

Before [registering](#), please think through your research question and needs. Fingenious serves researchers who need material from the participating biobanks for research covered by the [Finnish Biobank Act](#). The Act covers research using biobanks samples and associated data for the purposes of promoting health, understanding the mechanisms of disease or developing the products and treatment practices used in health care and medical care.

2. Find out sample and data availability via feasibility request in Fingenious

Fingenious enables requesting initial information on the availability of research material and the actual requests to obtain the material (samples and/or data). You can address your request to all of the participating [biobanks](#) or just one or some of them.

You can start your search for available biobank samples and connected data in our aggregate level availability service Fingenious Catalogue.

If you wish to obtain more detailed feasibility information, you can complete a feasibility form in Fingenious based on your Catalogue search. A report with the number of available samples and/or data types and/or potential research participants will be uploaded in Fingenious in 2-3 weeks from your request or agreement on the fees.

Service fees: Simple feasibility reports are free of charge (Category I in Fingenious) for academic researchers and more complex reports are subject to charge (Category II) for all researchers. You will be asked to estimate the complexity of your request and to select the appropriate category based on the criteria given in Fingenious. If you select Category II or if FINBB considers your request to be Category II, FINBB will contact you to agree on the costs before starting to fulfil the request.

3. Apply for samples/data via access request in Fingenious

Before submitting an access request, please check that you have filled everything in carefully and that you have all the documents needed as advised in Fingenious. Please note that if Helsinki Biobank is included in the access request you need a positive statement from an ethics committee before submitting the request. For the other biobanks the ethical evaluation will be performed by the biobanks' scientific committees after you submit your request. You can find their submission deadlines on the [biobanks' websites](#) for your planning purposes.

4. Material Transfer Agreement

After a positive decision from the biobanks, you will be requested to sign a Material Transfer Agreement (MTA). If your access request concerned only one biobank, you will contract directly between your organisation and the biobank. If the access request concerned multiple biobanks, as an alternative to contracting with all of the biobanks, you can conclude a single MTA with FINBB, who will represent the participating biobanks.

Legal information to be noted

Biobanks are not the only source of samples and data for biomedical scientific research. It can be possible to obtain hospital samples that are not in the biobanks through study specific consenting or by obtaining a [permission](#) from the Finnish National Supervisory Authority for Welfare and Health. For health-related data, there are many registers with clinical data, pharmaceutical prescriptions, and so on. These are also available for scientific research by permission from the registry authorities. From 1.4.2020 permissions can be obtained from www.findata.fi. FINBB may be able to help you with these kinds of material requests as well, but they are not currently covered by the standard Fingenious services.

The laws primarily applicable to the above mentioned hospital samples and health and social care data are [the Act of the Medical Use of Human Organs and Tissues](#) (Laki ihmisen elimien, kudoksien ja solujen lääketieteellisestä käytöstä, 101/2001) and the Act on the Secodary Use of Social and Healthcare data (552/2019; translation not yet available).

