

## Specimen Tracking System (STS) Overview

1. Log into STS via the [CRA Workbench](#) (or at: <https://spectrack.crab.org/Logon.aspx>) using your CTEP credentials.
2. STS laboratory IDs are used to identify the laboratories to which specimens will be shipped.
  - a. Each SWOG-led protocol will refer to this Lab ID # for each Specimen Type.
    - The SWOG Biospecimen Bank will either be Lab #201 for the Solid Tissue, Myeloma and Lymphoma Division or Lab #200 for the Leukemia Division.
  - b. Shipping addresses are included in Specimen Tracking under the relevant Laboratory ID#.
3. STS use is required for SWOG protocols.
  - a. Unless otherwise indicated in the protocol, all specimens must be logged in STS. Doing so will resolve specimen expectations.
  - b. Partial submissions (e.g., only partial slides available or vials could be collected) for an expected specimen submission must also be logged in.
  - c. Specimens that cannot be collected must be noted in STS using the “Notify that a Specimen Cannot be Submitted” function.
4. Each specimen type (e.g., blood or blood products, tissue blocks or slide) at each time point (e.g., baseline, Cycle 3 Day 1, progression) must be logged separately in Specimen Tracking.
5. The **SWOG Specimen Tracking Packing List** must be printed from Specimen Tracking and included in every shipment.
  - a. Prior to sealing the package, confirm that the information on the STS Packing List exactly matches the specimens in the shipment. **Double-check the specimen labels versus packing list.**
  - b. Collection dates must be in MM/DD/YYYY format.
  - c. Participant initials must be in the following order: Last, First Middle. The format of participant initials included on the specimen label must exactly match the format of the participant initials as entered into the SWOG Specimen Tracking System (STS), (i.e., **L, FM**). A difference in comma placement will result in a query.
    - Note: If your institution is not able to include a comma on the specimen label, then the SWOG Biospecimen Bank will accept specimen labels with participant initials in format FML without a comma, however, data entry into the STS must still be entered in format L, FM.
  - d. If errors or differences are noted and the slide label contains the correct information, then correct the information that was entered into the STS and re-print the STS Packing List.
  - e. A pathology report from the procedure **MUST** be included in shipment of tissue.
6. **Additional Materials and Contact Information:**
  - a. For procedural help with logging and shipping specimens: Refer to the [written Specimen Tracking instructions](#) or [Specimen Tracking introductory training presentation](#) (which is also available in [Spanish](#)).
  - b. How to document missing or partial specimen submission in the Specimen Tracking System (STS).
    - If a specimen was not collected / is not available for submission, this must be documented via the [Notify Specimen Cannot be Submitted](#) link in the STS.
    - If only a partial submission (e.g., limited slides available) is submitted, this must be documented in the STS, as indicated [here](#).
  - c. For answers to Frequently Asked Questions: Refer to [FAQs: Data Submission | Specimen Submission Queries](#) and [FAQs: Protocol Conduct | Specimen Collection](#)
  - d. For further assistance (e.g., editing or deleting shipments in Specimen Tracking): Contact the Data Operations Center via the appropriate disease-specific e-mail distribution list found on the [Contact Us](#) page or by Phone: 206-652-2267.
  - e. To report technical problems with STS, such as database errors or connectivity issues Contact [technicalquestion@crab.org](mailto:technicalquestion@crab.org).