Purpose
The purpose of this SOP is to describe the standard procedures involved in sample shipment from CHAIN site to Kilifi for biorepository and further analysis. This SOP applies inpatients and community participants who have consented for shipping.

Responsibility
This SOP applies to nursing staff, study clinicians and lab staff of study sites who will be involved in sample shipment. It is the responsibility of the users to follow the guidelines stipulated herein.

The Principal Investigator (through the study coordinator when applicable) retains the overall responsibility of implementation of these standard procedures.

The Study Laboratory Coordinator is responsible for answering questions you may have about the content of this SOP and any other relevant study documentation. Please contact that study the Study Laboratory Coordinator through your site coordinator.

Abbreviations/Definitions
IATA - International Air Transport Association
DGR - Dangerous Goods Regulations
UN2814 – Code for infectious substances, affecting humans
UN2900 – Code for infectious substances, affecting animals
UN 3373 - Infectious substances in category B
UN 1845 – Code for dry ice, CO₂ and other gases

Required material
- Approval for shipment from sites’ regulatory body
- Customs permit from Kenya
- Approval for import from Kenya
- Excel Box map
- Shipping Styrofoam box with visible UN2814, UN2900, UN1845, UN3373 and orientation signs.
- Bio hazard shipment bags
- Absorbent tissue
- Dry Ice
- Disposable gloves
Methods

1.0 General considerations
1.1 Sample shipment is the most critical procedure in CHAIN study. All processes must be well coordinated with the consigner and consignee been aware of the processes.
1.2 Import, export permits and approval from regulatory bodies MUST be available before planning any shipment.
1.3 Sites must contact reputable organization for shipment and acquire way bill numbers for tracking purposes i.e. world courier.
1.4 Consigner and consignee must be in communication. The total number of sample aliquot cryoboxes should be communicated during the planning stage. Follow up communication should go on until the samples are received, QC is done and feedback is given on the sample status upon reception.
1.5 Personnel doing shipments should have a valid IATA and DGR certificates. IATA and DGR classifies Class 6.2 infectious substances into two categories, Biological substance, Category A and Biological substances, Category B: Biological Substance, Category A: an infectious substance which, when exposure to it occurs, is capable of causing permanent disability, life-threatening or fatal disease in otherwise healthy humans or animals. Biological Substance, Category B: An infectious substance which does not meet the criteria for inclusion in Category A. Infectious substances in category B must be assigned to UN 3373.
1.6 All sample boxes MUST be of 133 X 133 X 52 mm dimension. Any samples in different box sizes should not be shipped.
1.7 Dry ice is considered a hazardous substance because it expands as it sublimates—that is, reverts from solid back to gas. If the expanding gas cannot escape, the container may rupture and release its contents. Therefore, do not store dry ice in tight fitting containers.
1.8 IATA require triple packaging of samples for shipment. In CHAIN, the specimen tube (primary container) will transported in a Nalgene cryobox (secondary container). The Nalgene cryobox will be stored in a sealed bio hazard shipment bag (Triple container).

2.0 Sample packaging
2.1 Print all the shipping manifests and box maps indicating samples stored in each box. Perform a spot check quality control on each box to ensure that samples have been stored in the right positions as per the box maps.
2.2 Assemble the Styrofoam box.
2.3 Layer absorbent tissue at the base of the box. Pour dry ice to 1/16 full and layer it evenly.
2.4 Pick 2 Nalgene cryoboxes from the freezer and place them inside bio hazard shipment bag in presence of absorbent tissue and seal it. Each shipment bag should hold a maximum of 2 boxes.
2.5 Place the bio hazard shipment bag in the Styrofoam box.
2.6 Depending on the number of boxes to be shipped, repeat steps 2.3 to 2.4 and fill the Styrofoam to half full.
2.7 Pour dry ices to “bury” the biological shipment bag.
2.8 Place the lid and ensure it fits well to position.
2.9 Place excel tray map print out on top of the lid and close the cardboard box.
2.10 Seal the Styrofoam card board box and attached a shipping address print out. This should contain:
CHAIN Sample shipment SOP (MASTER)

FROM
Name of Shipper:
Site of origin:
Name of Facility and Box number:
Tel number:
Cell Number:
Email Address:

TO:
Name of consignee: Moses Mosobo/Robert Musyimi
Name of Facility and Box number: KEMRI-WTRL CGMR-Coast,
P. O box 230, Kilifi, 80108, Kenya
Tel number: +2544041-7522063 or +2544041-7522535
Cell number: +254733816289 or +254725245533 or +254721454459
Email: rmusyimi@kemri-wellcome.org, mmosobo@kemri-wellcome.org,

2.1 References

4.0 References

5.0 Document history

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<th>Approved by</th>
<th>Dated</th>
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<td>1.0 CHN 70: CHAIN Sample shipment SOP (MASTER)</td>
<td>Robert Musyimi</td>
<td>Caroline Tigoi</td>
<td>25/07/2018</td>
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6.0 Site training record
All sites are required to maintain a master copy of this SOP that documents the site staff that have been trained on this SOP.
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