

MEMORANDUM

To: ACTG Sites and Processing Laboratories

From: ACTG Laboratory Center

Date: 17Sept2025

Subject: PBMC Collection and Current IQA Round Participation

This memo provides important guidance regarding shipping of samples and opening the window for ACTG IQA participation

Shipping to BRI **remains** paused for the time being. As a reminder:

- PBMC collected at visits for currently enrolled participants during the ACTG shipping pause should be stored on site and not shipped to the repository.
- If PBMC will remain on site beyond 5 weeks, they should be transferred to LN2 for long-term storage. Once shipments can resume, we will work with labs to coordinate shipments to the repository using dry shippers.
- If LN2 storage is not available locally, please email the Lab Center at **ACTG.labcenter@fstrf.org** for further guidance, and we will work with your site and lab to identify a solution.
- PBMC collections for A5321 are suspended until further notice.

Participation in Current IQA Round

- All laboratories affiliated with ACTG sites are cleared to participate in the current IQA round, including both US and international processing laboratories.
- Participation in this round is essential to remain approved for PBMC collections under ACTG protocols.
- Samples can be submitted to the IQA beginning October 6, 2025. Sites should plan to have their samples submitted to the IQA no later than October 17th.
- If there are any questions, please email lc.iqa.pbmcquestions@fstrf.org.