Case study: Implementing SLims in a Swiss Kidney Stone Cohort in support of clinical research

SLims Added Values

- **SLims assures the collection of a diverse set of sample and patient information**
  The cohort relies on collections of relatively few specimens per patient (like blood, urine and derivate). However, due to the complexity of the project, many specific fields are needed, among them are a number of analysis values. SLims' great adaptability makes it a straightforward task to create a few hundred different fields for the sample parameters or project fields. Not all the data is directly collected in SLims, other software is used for certain data entries, such as health questionnaires. Those data points and results are imported into SLims as fully searchable, tabulated data points using its automated or semi-automated features.

- **SLims supports the Biobank to comply with patient data protection regulations**
  The personnel at each location needs access to the patient data of their own site in accordance with their role in the project. SLims' group- and role-privileges make sure that the different personnel at the varying sites have access only to the data they are allowed to; e.g. only staff with a very specific role is allowed to see the patient names participating in the project. Furthermore, SLims' exclusive access control, and chain of custody, guarantees an automatic tracking function which fully records and traces all the data entries.

Client Need

Within the framework of this initiative, the Swiss Kidney Stone Cohort (SKSC) has been established to collect data of patients suffering from repeated kidney stone events over a ten-year time period. The goal of this integrated physiological approach is to set up a rational basis leading to the potential development of novel preventive, diagnostic, and therapeutic approaches in patients with chronic kidney diseases.

For the purpose of this multi-site research project, a new multi-site Biobank storing biological samples, such as urine and blood, was set up. During the collection time data on nutrition, physical activity, medical, and demographical information is gathered to build the foundation of a well-structured and annotated database of the patient population.

Background

The nationwide research network of the Swiss National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) Kidney Control of Homeostasis (Kidney.CH) has set up a long-term initiative to advance knowledge and understanding of the renal homeostatic mechanisms controlling body composition in health and disease.
Case Study: Biobanks

SLims Solution

Genohm has developed SLims, a laboratory informatics software that integrates LIMS + ELN features. SLims has been selected to manage this entirely new Biobank and cohort establishing the continuous observation and follow-up of the chosen patient pool. Its highly adaptable data and sample management features satisfy a large and diverse set of criteria and enable the long-term observation of the kidney stone patient cohort and the sample collection for its Biobank.

SLims’ LIMS + ELN features enable the SKSC initiative to:

- Make it easy to enroll patients and overview their progression in the cohort
- Combine patient data with sample management
- Handle different patient information like medical history, results from physical examinations, demographic, nutritional, and other lifestyle information
- Allow storage of various types of coded patient samples and recording diverse sets of sample-specific data points, ranging from collection time, metabolic, and other analyses parameters
- Link diverse sample locations yet be easy to use for the whole staff
- Provide adequate user-, group- and role-specific access
- Provide easy access across different institutions, yet comply effortlessly with data protection and patient protection needs

About Genohm

Genohm is a Swiss company with offices in Lausanne (Switzerland), Ghent (Belgium) and in Durham, NC (USA). The company has developed SLims, a laboratory software automation suite. SLims provides laboratories with one integrated LIMS + ELN environment that tracks data and samples from the original sample shipment down to the result from lab machines and in-silico analysis pipelines. It fully accommodates the needs of any research lab, NGS lab, service facility, Biobank or QC lab.

www.genohm.com
info@genohm.com
Switzerland +41 (0)21 353 87 01
Belgium +32 (0)9 334 68 58
USA +1 (919) 797 9370

“SLims is the perfect Lab Companion for your Biobank”