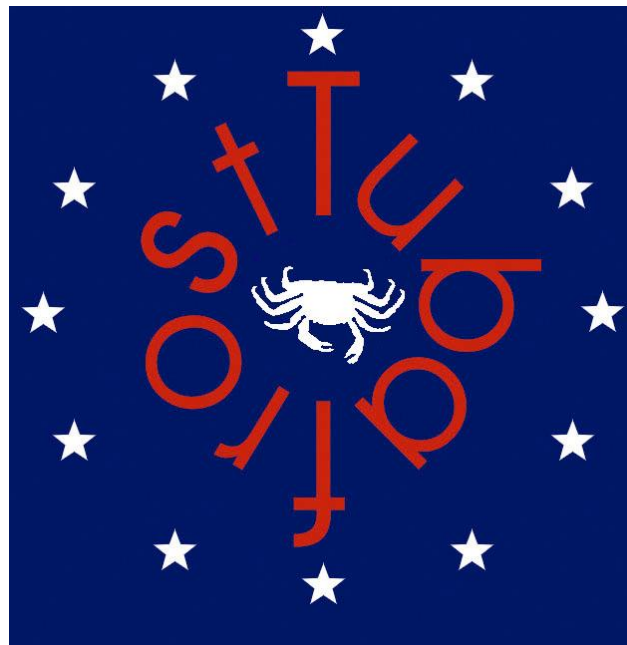


European Human Frozen Tumour Tissue Bank

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This report concerns the assessment of the technical aspects for storing frozen tissue, which is important for preparing the choice of a standardized system of tissue storage. It is part of Work Package 2: “Development of storage system for frozen tissue storage”.

Assessment of the technical aspects for storing frozen tissue:

A sophisticated liquid nitrogen storage system was presented and evaluated at the kick-off meeting. The innovating part of this system is that tissues will be stored in straws, thereby enabling automatic retrieval thereby offering quality assurance in the certainty concerning the volume of tissue that is used in subsequent experiments. This in combination with bar coded labelling offers also quality assurance concerning the identity of the samples.

During the discussion concerning the storage system at the Kick-off meeting it became clear that many participants are very interested in the new developments, but are more in favour of a system which meets the minimum standards for good quality storage, because if the network grows bigger, new, maybe not well equipped participants can easily join the network without having the need of a large budget.

It was decided that the sophisticated system will be investigated further and will be compared to a minimum standard, which will also be investigated in parallel in WP3 setting the minimum standards.