

# Case Study

## The Cambridge BioResource

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### About the study

The Cambridge BioResource initiative is a long-term project focused on establishing links between genes and normal characteristics of the population in a large cross-section of individuals in the Cambridge area. The Cambridge BioResource will serve as a research resource from which individuals with a particular genotype can be invited to participate in future studies that will analyze the correlations between genes, the environment and disease susceptibility. This information will identify basic mechanisms of common diseases, such as obesity, and type 2 and type 1 diabetes.

### Main challenges

The recruitment goal for the Cambridge BioResource project is to collect samples from at least 2,000 individuals between the ages of 18 and 65 who live or work within a 25 mile radius of Cambridge. In order to maximize donor recruitment, the coordinators decided to implement a user-friendly, sample self-collection option. DNA quality and quantity of the samples is also an imperative for ongoing downstream analysis.

### Collection methods considered

Study coordinators compared the results of DNA collection using Oragene versus blood samples.

### Why Oragene

The team selected Oragene for the majority of its DNA sample collection due to its ease-of-use, non-invasive approach and reliability. Oragene enables collection from donors in the comfort of their own home as the kits are easily sent via the post. The ability for donors to reliably self-collect samples makes it more convenient than having to go to a central location for a blood draw and dramatically improves access to participants and donor compliance.

### Results

Oragene has increased donor recruitment rates and is facilitating sample collection for both the study participants and the researchers. Oragene is enabling the Cambridge BioResource project to quickly meet its recruitment objectives.

*"The kits are ideal as they allow us to send packs out directly to interested volunteers without the need for a home visit or for them to come to the hospital to give their sample."*

