



Creating a Collection Protocol in OpenSpecimen

What is a Collection Protocol?

A Collection Protocol is like a digital folder that organises all specimens for a specific Flinders research project or ethics-approved study. It includes key details like the project name, lead researcher, ethics approval reference, and specimen types.

There are two types of Collection Protocols:

- **Participant Centric CPs** follow individuals through their clinical journey, collecting specimens at defined events (e.g. Recruitment, Diagnosis, Birth, etc)
- **Specimen Centric CPs** manage specimens without linking to participant data.

For each Collection Protocol, the following information needs to be captured:

- Collection Protocol Name, Short Title and Description
- Associated Sites
- Principal Investigator and Coordinator(s)
- Collection Protocol Type (i.e. Participant or Specimen Centric)

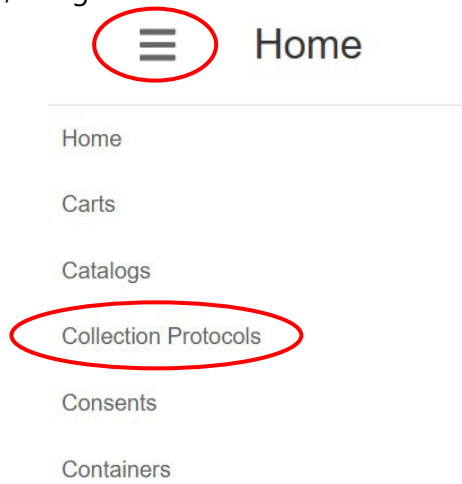
Other non-mandatory details can also be added in, if known:

- Study Start and End Date
- Ethics Approval Details
- Funding Sources
- Expected Participant Numbers
- SOP links
- Biosecurity Requirements

Each specimen in OpenSpecimen must be linked to a Collection Protocol (CP), which defines how specimens are collected, processed, and stored.

How to Create a New Collection Protocol


1. From the Home Menu, navigate to **Collection Protocols**.



2. Select 

3. Fill in the relevant details in the appropriate fields:

- **Site**
- **Title:** Full Study Name (e.g., "Vascular Disease Biobank").
- **Short Title:** Abbreviated name (e.g., "Vascular Biobank").
- **Principal Investigator**
- **Start Date:** Use the project commencement year.
- **IRB ID:** Ethics approval reference.
- **Type: Participant Centric or Specimen Centric:** Tick which box is appropriate to your study, from the two Collection Protocol types. A Participant Centric study tracks specimens across participant visits/events. A Specimen Centric study focuses on samples without linking to participant journeys.
- **Description of CP:** Brief study overview.

4. Once done, click  .