Authorship and Acknowledgement Guidelines for IGTP Core Facilities

Personnel in core facilities provide essential services for their users and it is important to recognize their contributions to the scientific advancement of the projects. The type of recognition that is most appropriate may be different for individual projects, depending on the contribution that core facility personnel provides. Thus, it is important that the Core Facilities are acknowledged in publications in order to document the value of our core facility.

Important reasons for acknowledging contributions from core facilities in publications, by coauthorship or by formal mention in the material and methods and/or acknowledgments section, include:

- Core facility personnel are scientists. When they make a substantial intellectual and/or experimental contribution to a publication they deserve to be acknowledged just as any other co-author.
- The existence of core facilities depends in part on proper acknowledgment in publications. This is an important metric of the value of most core facilities. Proper acknowledgment of core facilities enables them to obtain financial and other support so that they may continue to provide their essential services in the best ways possible.

The following example would be appropriate for acknowledgement in the Materials and Methods section:

- “__________________ was/were performed by the XXXX Core Facility at Germans Trias i Pujol Research Institute.”
- For Biobank services: “Samples and data from patients included in this study were provided by the IGTP-HUGTP Biobank integrated in the Spanish National Biobanks Network of Instituto de Salud Carlos III (PT13/0010/0009) and Tumour Bank Network of Catalonia, and they were processed following standard operating procedures with the appropriate approval of the Ethical and Scientific Committees”.

The following example would be appropriate for acknowledgement section at the end of the manuscript:

- We thank the IGTP XXXX Core Facility and staff (names can be used if wanted) for their contribution to this publication
- Biobank services: “We want to particularly acknowledge the patients and the IGTP-HUGTP Biobank integrated in the Spanish National Biobanks Network of Instituto de Salud Carlos III (PT13/0010/0009) and Tumour Bank Network of Catalonia for its collaboration”

Possible authorships if more sophisticated help was provided by the facility: We kindly ask users to consider any facility member for co-authorship on papers where the facility has provided in-depth help in designing, testing/setting-up experimental conditions, and helped analyzing resulting data for experiments published with the paper or when the facility provided extensive and flexible service. We understand and accept that the final decision on the form of credit lies with the PI of the individual study.

Badalona, November 14th 2016

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