

Influenza Reagent Resource (IRR)

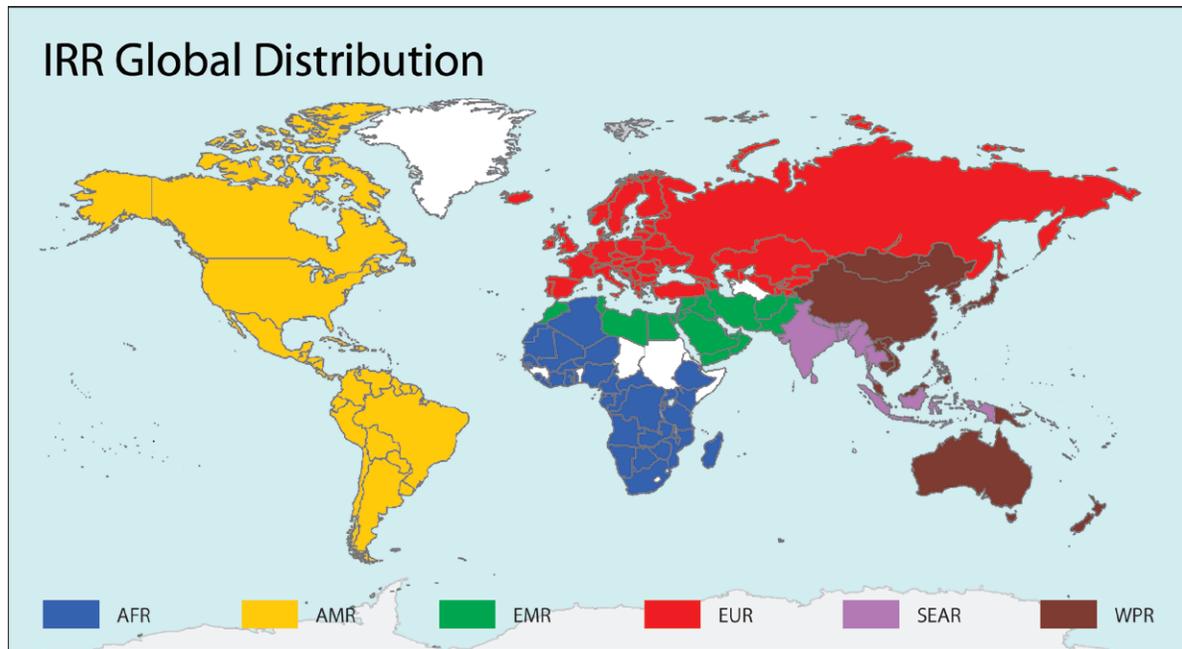
The Influenza Reagent Resource (IRR) was established by the U.S. CDC to provide registered users with reagents, tools and information for studying and detection of influenza virus. The IRR acquires, authenticates, and produces reagents that scientists need to carry out basic research and develop improved diagnostic tests, vaccines, and detection methods. Public health labs also use the reagents across the globe for the surveillance of newly emerging strains of influenza, such as H1N1 and H5N1. By centralizing these functions within the IRR, access to and use of these materials in the scientific and public health community is monitored and quality control of the reagents is assured.

The roles of IRR in pandemic preparedness and influenza research are:

- To manufacture and distribute influenza diagnostic kits, viruses, and reagents to public health, commercial, domestic, and international research laboratories.
- To improve pandemic preparedness, enhance detection and control of seasonal influenza, and provide better access to reagents via a secure, web-based system.
- To augment CDC's international pandemic preparedness plan to provide a surge option (~\$10+ million per year) which can be exercised to distribute reagents and diagnostic kits to domestic and international public health laboratories.

Post pandemic, CDC and IRR continue to provide reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) 2009 H1N1 and seasonal influenza diagnostic kits, ancillary reagents, reference viruses and other materials to 128 countries supporting more than 187 international laboratories. These kits and reagents were also provided to more than 150 public health laboratories domestically in 50 states and territories.

Product	Total Kits International	# Countries Distributed	# Int Labs Distributed	Total Kits in U.S.	# of Domestic Distributed	# of U.S. State Labs Distributed	Total Kits
H1N1 RT-PCR Kit	226	128	187	129	50 + DC + PR	161	355
Seasonal RT-PCR Kit	671			683			1354
WHO Reference Kit	220			83			303



A map of IRR's distribution of diagnostic kits and reagents to countries/regions.

IRR is currently available via fluorder@cdc.gov. The IRR website is live and displays over 150 different reagents and kits available to the public health labs globally. Registration to the IRR should commence in the near future, allowing registrants to order reagents electronically as well as view a large amount of information relating to influenza reagents.

The IRR is providing better access to quality influenza-related reagents by manufacturing and distributing influenza viruses a la carte and as panels, recombinant proteins, antisera, monoclonal antibodies, ribonucleic acid (RNA) standards, non-influenza respiratory pathogens and more. Institutions that have access to these reagents are qualified domestic and international WHO NICs and public health laboratories, commercial test developers, vaccine manufacturers, and research institutions.