
Working with Samples and Subsamples

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In ZIMS, you can easily manage your samples and subsamples without always needing to manually create subsamples. ZIMS automates much of this process for you, saving you time and streamlining your workflow.

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[Understanding Subsample Creation in ZIMS](#)

When you order multiple tests from a single parent sample or move a sample to storage, ZIMS often handles the creation of subsamples automatically in the background.

[Viewing Subsamples](#)

To see how ZIMS organizes your samples and subsamples:

1. Click on the **Sample Tree View** button.
2. You will see the parent sample, along with any tests ordered on it. If a subsample was automatically created for a test request or for storage, it will also be displayed here.

Scenarios Where ZIMS Automates Subsample Creation

[Multiple Test Requests from a Single Sample](#)

If you need to perform multiple tests from the same parent sample (e.g., a serum sample requiring two different tests, or a whole blood sample split for in-house testing and a reference lab):

- You do **not** need to use the **Create Subsample** button.
- Simply create two separate test requests: one for the in-house panel and one for the reference lab panel. ZIMS will automatically manage any necessary subsample identification behind the scenes.

Moving Samples to Storage

When you move a sample to storage:

1. Click on the specific sample (e.g., the serum sample).
2. Select the option to **move it to storage**.
3. ZIMS will automatically create a subsample in the background for the stored portion.

Best Practices: Utilize Action Button

To optimize your workflow and save time, it's recommended to primarily use the **action buttons** within ZIMS for ordering tests and moving samples to storage. ZIMS is designed to perform the "heavy lifting" for you, eliminating the need to frequently use the **Create Subsample** button to achieve your goals.

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