

STRBASE: A WEB BASED RESOURCE FOR STR INFORMATION

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The web-based Short Tandem Repeat Database (STRBase – <https://strbase.nist.gov>) was developed in 1997. Analysts in forensics labs use STRBase to verify allele information, technical leaders can find and download training information, and researchers and methods developers can search for various kinds of STR-related information. Over the years many institutions and researchers have contributed information to this resource, which continues to this day. Since its inception, the design of the site has been relatively constant with minimal changes made to the underlying IT architecture. A redesign of the web-based tool is currently underway to make enhancements to the user interface. The goal is to maintain information in an accessible format while allowing the new site to be more easily sustained. New features to the site will allow user to search, sort, and download data from information tables and is connected to resources available at other sites, including NCBI. Users will be able to create an account for receiving updates and contributing information such as variant alleles. The site itself will be searchable for topics of interest. STRBase 2.0 is currently under development and will be available to the public shortly for beta testing. Examples of the user interface and data organization will be presented. User feedback is greatly appreciated and will be incorporated into the development of STRBase 2.0.