Biorepository Core
Comprehensive Transplant Center
Feinberg School of Medicine
Northwestern University
300 E. Superior St., Tarry 11-704
Chicago, IL 60611
Tel: 312-503-2004
Fax: 312-503-3366
www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/transplant/cores/biorepository.html

Comprehensive Transplant Center
Feinberg School of Medicine
Northwestern University
676 N. St. Clair St., Suite 1900
Chicago, IL 60611
Tel: 312-695-3555
Fax: 866-485-9212
E-Mail: CTC@northwestern.edu
www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/transplant/
About the Biorepository Core

The Transplant Biorepository Core is located at 300 E. Superior Street, Tarry Bldg 11th Floor, Chicago, IL 60611. It is a component of the Comprehensive Transplant Center’s (CTC) facilities under the direction of Dr. Anna Zago.

The Biorepository Core is dedicated to provide biobanking infrastructure and support. It is the CTC central resource for high quality specimens to facilitate translational and clinical research projects.

The Biorepository is located in the ASHI/CLIA-certified Transplant Immunology laboratory and it offers regulatory compliant collection, handling, processing and banking of research specimens without interfering with patient care. In addition, it takes full advantage of the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine Freezer Farm for secure and monitored long term storage.

The Biorepository offers the advantages of a powerful and secure web-based management database system that allows to store and retrieve specimens rapidly and link specimens to relevant clinical information allowing to identify specimens meeting specific research criteria.

The Biorepository software has a direct feed into the Northwestern University Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW) so that it is linked to clinical data. This allows investigators working under IRB-approved protocols to query for specimen availability based on relevant clinical factors from the EMR. In addition, it is linked to the Aperio digital pathology platform at NUCTC that enables pathologists in an efficient integrated clinical workflow to read immunohistochemistry (IHC) slides on a computer monitor, perform quantitative image analysis, and generate professional reports.

Mission

1. Collect, process and store well-characterized biospecimens from solid organ and stem cell transplant patients for scientific studies
2. Provide investigators with high quality and well-annotated biosamples for biomarker discovery and validation.

Services

The Transplant Biorepository Core provides the following services to the investigators of the CTC as well as other investigators:

- Timely processing of biospecimens with procurement protocols that guarantee the integrity of the cellular components,
- Processing and preservation methods that offer specimens with high analytical performance and reproducibility,
- Highly monitored storage with continuous temperature recording,
- De-identification of clinical specimens to guarantee privacy and an efficient barcoding system to track the life history of the specimens,
- An efficient inventory system that offers a rapid query and retrieval of requested specimens,
- Collection of frozen plasma, serum, whole blood, white blood cells, urine or urine pellet linked to clinical outcomes and other relevant clinical data

We are always interested in developing new specimen collections and collaborations, and will attempt to accommodate any proposed project.

Getting Started

For service requests please contact:
Dr. Anna Zago a-zago@northwestern.edu

For additional information, please email: CTC@northwestern.edu or visit the CTC’s web site by going to www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/transplant/cores/biorepository.html