

Biorepository Core  
Comprehensive Transplant Center  
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<http://www.feinberg.northwestern.edu/sites/transplant/research/research-cores/bioreposit-core.html>

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## Biorepository Core

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 **Northwestern  
Medicine®**

Comprehensive  
Transplant Center

## Mission

The mission of the Biorepository Core is to collect, process, and store well-characterized biospecimens from solid organ and stem cell transplant patients for scientific studies. It also provides investigators with high quality and well-annotated biosamples for biomarker discovery and validation. It is the central CTC resource for high quality specimen processing and storage to facilitate translational and clinical research projects.

## About the Biorepository Core

The Transplant Biorepository Core is located at 300 E. Superior Street, Tarry Building 11th Floor, Chicago, IL 60611. It is a component of the Comprehensive Transplant Center's (CTC) facilities and is accredited by the College of American Pathologists (CAP) under the direction of Dr. David Pinelli.

The Biorepository 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 constantly monitored long-term storage.

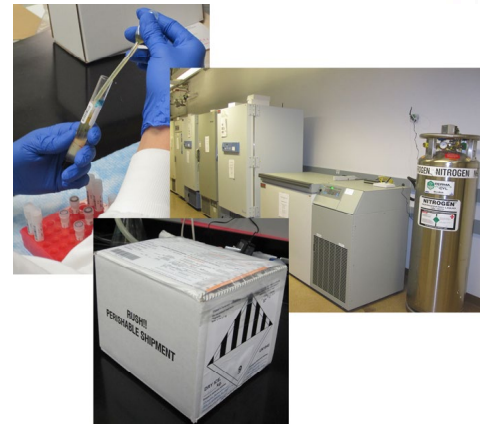
The Biorepository offers the advantages of a powerful and secure web-based database system (FreezerPro) that allows the secure storage and rapid retrieval of specimens. The Biorepository is also in the process of developing an automated interface to allow data from FreezerPro to sync into the Northwestern University Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW). This will allow investigators working under IRB-approved protocols to query for specimen availability based on relevant clinical factors from the EMR. In addition, it will be linked to the Aperio digital pathology platform at NUCTC which will enable pathologists in an efficient integrated clinical workflow to read immunohistochemistry (IHC) slides on a computer monitor, perform quantitative image analysis, and generate professional reports.

The CTC Biorepository houses more than 200,000 samples from hundreds of patients, and currently supports more than 20 different active studies, including NIH and pharmaceutical-company sponsored research.

## Services

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

- Timely processing of biospecimens with protocols that guarantee the integrity of samples for future studies, including extraction of DNA, mRNA, and proteins.
- Processing and preservation methods that offer specimens with high analytical performance and reproducibility.
- 24/7 monitoring of 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.



## Getting Started

To discuss starting a project or using the services of the Biorepository Core of the Comprehensive Transplant Center, please contact:

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