

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

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## Biorepository Core



## 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.

## 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 CAP under the direction of Dr. Anat Tambur.

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 is accredited by CAP offering 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 to link specimens to relevant clinical information allowing for identification of 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 which 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.

The CTC Biorepository houses hundreds of thousands samples from hundreds of patients involved in numerous studies  
The CTC Biorepository supports over 35 NIH or pharmaceutical company sponsored research.

## 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 samples for future studies including extraction of DNA, mRNA, and proteins 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

## Getting Started

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

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