

National Cancer Institute

U.S. National Institutes of Health | www.cancer.gov

National Cancer Institute Survey of Human Biospecimen Needs and Challenges for the Biomedical Research Enterprise

Thank you for assisting the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Office of Biorepositories and Biospecimen Research (OBBR) with this survey.

Before you begin, please note:

- . Completing this survey will take about 15 minutes of your time. If you don't believe you can respond about these issues, please feel free to forward your invitation email to someone else (note however, that the login ID will only work for one person).
- · As you go through the survey, if you want to return to an earlier section you can use your browser's back button to
- After you click the "save and continue" button (at the bottom right hand-side of your screen), your data will be saved for that page. If for some reason you exit the survey before completion, you may log in again using the same ID; you will see your saved answers up through the last page you completed.

To continue and begin the survey, click the "next" button below.

We appreciate your interest and look forward to receiving your input on this important survey. If you have any questions about the survey, please do not hesitate to contact the NCI OBBR at biospecimens@mail.nih.gov.

Opt out of survey

Next -->

If you experience any technical difficulties, please contact the survey administrator at User-Centered Design at survey@user-centereddesign.com

National Cancer Institute

U.S. National Institutes of Health | www.cancer.gov

Privacy Statement

Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary. Please be assured that your responses will be kept private and will not be disclosed to anyone outside NCI or its contractor, User-Centered Design, Inc. All data will be reported in aggregate only -- no names will be included in any reports. You may skip any questions that you prefer not to answer or withdraw at any point during the survey. If you choose to withdraw and want to delete your data, simply click the "Opt out of survey" link at the bottom of each page.

Opt out of survey

Next -->

National Cancer Institute	S. National Institutes of	Health www.cancer.gov
Information about You and Your Work In order to better understand your responses, we would like t little more about you and your field of work.	o know a	% Completed
1. Which of the following best describes your <u>primary</u> role on a day-to-day bas (Please select one.)	sis (as it relates to th	e biomedical field)?
Clinical researcher Surgeon Oncologist/other physician Nursing personnel/clinical research coordinator Other clinical or healthcare staff Pathologist Laboratory scientist/researcher Laboratory personnel/technician Non-laboratory scientist/researcher Bioinformatics specialist Information technology specialist Executive/administrator (e.g., leader in an organization) Policy analyst Health educator Patient/patient advocate Biorepository manager Other (specify):		
2. How many years have you been involved in the biomedical field?		
Less than 11-56-1011-15		

Save and Continue

16-20More than 20

National Cancer Institute	U.S. National Institutes of Health www.cancer.gov
Information about You and Your Work (cont'o	l)
	% Completed
3. In what type of organization are you currently working or in	volved? (Please select the one that most closely applies.)
Academic/research institution	
NCI-designated cancer center	
Other cancer center	
 Hospital, clinic, or other healthcare setting 	
 National Cancer Institute (NCI) 	
 NIH institute (other than the NCI) 	
 Federal government agency (other than the NIH) 	
 State/local government agency (other than academic 	institutions)
 Nonprofit organization (e.g., foundation) 	
 Advocacy organization 	
 Pharmaceutical/biotechnology company 	
Other biomedical company	
Other (specify):	
4. Do you work in a biorepository (biobank)?	
○ No	
O Yes	

Save and Continue



Experience with Biological Specimens

% Completed

5.	In what capacity do you deal with biological specimens in your work? (Select all that apply from the following lists.)
	Collect Administer informed consent Collect/gather biospecimens for my own use Collect/gather biospecimens for use by others Collect/gather biospecimens specifically for medical care purposes (e.g., surgical removal of tumors, tissue for biopsies or screening tests) Obtain/purchase biospecimens (e.g., from a biorepository) for my own use Obtain/purchase biospecimens (e.g., from a biorepository) for use by others
	Process Process Intellectual Property (IP) and material transfer agreements (MTA) Prepare/review IRB proposals
	Store Oversee or work with the storage of specimens (e.g., responsible for storage conditions, inventory)
	Distribute/Supply/Share Share/supply specimens to others in my organization Supply specimens to others external to my organization
	Treatment and Diagnosis Use specimens for biomedical research Surgical treatment Medical care delivery
	Proposals and Policies Review research proposals that include biospecimens in the methods Manage grants for studies involving biospecimens Assist with policy regulations around individual privacy, biospecimens, and biospecimen research
	Other (specify): I do not directly deal with biological specimens in my work.

Access to Biospecimens

Before we ask your opinions about a national biospecimen database, we would like your input on accessing biospecimens today.	% Completed
6. What percentage of the biospecimens you work with/obtain come from each of these sources? (Please enter integers only.)	
% - My patients/study participants/volunteers	
% - Other patients/volunteers in my organization (e.g., tissue procurement services, other	r IRB-approved
projects)	
% - Other medical care facilities (e.g., community hospitals)	
% - Other research institutions (e.g., Specialized Programs of Research Excellence [SP	ORES], other
academic hospitals)	
% - Nonprofit biobank	
% - Commercial biobank in the U.S.	
% - Commercial biobank outside the U.S.	
% - NCI's Cooperative Human Tissue Network (CHTN)	
% - Other:	
Does not apply to me	
6a. Some researchers have collaborative agreements with other researchers about sharing specime of biospecimens you work with come from individuals or organizations who are your research collaborative processes you collect yourself or receive from your patients or other biorepository)?	ns. What proportion prators (excluding
None (0%) Few (1-25%)	
Some (26-50%) Many (51-75%)	
Most (76-99%)	
All (100%)	
O Don't know	
Obes not apply to me	
Opt out of survey	Save and Continue
If you experience any technical difficulties, please contact the survey administrator at User-Centered Design at survey@user-centereddesign.com	

National Cancer Institute	U.S. National Institutes of Health www.cancer.gov			
Access to Biospecimens (cont'd)				
	% Completed			
7. What types of biospecimen samples do you from the following lists.)	most want or need for the research you conduct? (Select all that apply			
Patient demographics:	Biospecimen characteristics:			
☐ Fetal	□ Normal blood			
Neonatal	Normal serum/plasma			
Pediatric	☐ Blood (disease states)			
Adolescent	Serum/plasma (disease states)			
Young adult	Cell lines from human tissue			
Aged	Normal healthy tissue			
Gender	Cancer			
Race/ethnicity	 Pre-malignant (dysplastic, adenomatous, intraepithelial, 			
Other (specify):	neoplasia, etc)			
Fetal				
Fetal				
	_ •			
	Other (specify):			
	ent demographics: Fetal			

Save and Continue

Save and Continue

Does not apply

Access to Biospecimens (cont'd)

Access to Biospecimens (cont'd)	
	% Completed
9. Thinking about the information you typically know about the biospecimens you work with, describes your situation?	which statement best
I usually have enough information about the biospecimens and do not need more.	
I usually have enough information about the biospecimens, but I would like to have m	iore.
 I usually do not have enough information about the biospecimens. 	
 I am not sure whether or not I have the information I need or should have. 	
Opes not apply to me	
10. How easy or difficult is it for you to obtain the <u>number</u> of biospecimens you need for you	r work?
O Very easy	
○ Easy	
○ Somewhat easy	
Somewhat difficult	
DiffiIt	

Opt out of survey

 Difficult Very difficult

O Does not apply to me

Save and Continue

Perceptions of the Quality of Biospecimens

%	Completed

	% Completed
11. If all barriers were removed, what information or characteristics about biospecimens would you c in order for you to consider them "high quality"?	onsider ideal to know
Biospecimen type (e.g. cell, fluid, tissue)	
 Anatomical location (e.g., where sampled from on the body) 	
Collection procedures	
Storage procedures	
■ Transfer procedures	
Patient demographics	
Patient complaint/history of current illness	
Patient past medical history	
Patient family history	
Patient's health behavior and lifestyle characteristics	
Clinical diagnosis	
Pathological diagnosis	
Patient treatment information	
Patient treatment outcomes	
 Patient consent/authorization status (e.g., HIPAA, informed consent) 	
Quality control data on the biospecimen itself (e.g., standard operating procedures used by th	e facility)
 Quality assessment of the biospecimen (e.g., fits diagnosis, tissue is viable) 	
 History of how each biospecimen has been collected, stored, and managed 	
Other:	
Does not apply	
_ boos not apply	
Elaborate on how you would define a "high quality" biospecimen by completing the following sentence	0.1
Elaborate of flow you would define a flight quality biospecimen by completing the following sentence	е.
A biospecimen is "high quality" for my work when it	
	‡
Opt out of survey	Save and Continue
If you experience any technical difficulties, please contact the survey administrator at User-Centered Design at survey@user-centereddesign.com	

Perceptions of the Quality of Biospecimens (cont'd)

% C	ompleted	

% Completed
Note: For the remaining questions about "high quality" biospecimens, please think of the information about biospecimens (see question 11) that you defined as ideal for the work you do and for producing quality outcomes.
12. What percentage of the time in your work with biospecimens is the use of "high quality" biospecimens necessary?
Never (0%) Rarely (1-25%) Sometimes (26-50%) Often (51-75%) Usually (76-99%) All (100%)
On't know Not applicable
In what situations with your work is it necessary or desirable to use these "high quality" biospecimens?
Opt out of survey
If you experience any technical difficulties, please contact the survey administrator at User-Centered Design at survey@user-centereddesign.com

Perceptions of the Quality of Biospecimens (cont'd)

13. Below is a list of possible challenges to accessing "high quality" biospecimens. For each one, please indicate how much of a problem it is overall for you in your work.

	Not a problem					Very big problem
Lack of evidence-based best practices for collection of biospecimens	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lack of evidence-based best practices for processing biospecimens	\circ	0	0	0	0	0
Lack of evidence-based best practices for storing biospecimens	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lack of adherence to existing best practices	0				0	
Time needed to find and obtain biospecimens	0			0	0	0
Restrictive nature of HIPAA and human subjects guidelines	\circ	0	0	\circ	0	0
Lack of standardized IRB review	0		0	0	0	0
Lack of funding or reimbursement to collect or process biospecimens	\circ	0	0	\circ	0	0
High cost of biospecimens	0	0		0	0	0
Lack of willingness of researchers to share biospecimens	0				\circ	0
Lack of standardized patient recruitment and consent procedures	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lack of patient willingness to provide or donate biospecimens	\circ	0	0	0	0	0
What other problems or barriers, if any, would you say impede access to biospecimens?						
					,	-

National Cancer Institute	U.S. National Institutes of Health www.cancer.gov
Perceptions of the Quality of Biospecimens (cont'd) % Completed
14. In general, how easy/difficult do you think it is to access	"high quality" biospecimens when they are needed?
 Very easy Easy Somewhat easy Somewhat difficult Difficult Very difficult 	
○ Don't know	
15. How often, if ever, have you questioned findings/outcome quality of the biospecimens you had available to use?	es from your work because you had concerns about the
Never (0%) Rarely (1-25%) Sometimes (26-50%) Often (51-75%) Usually (76-99%) Always (100%)	
Opon't know	

Save and Continue

O Does not apply to me

National Cancer Institute	U.S. National Institutes of Health www.cancer.gov
Perceptions of the Quality of Biospecimens (
	% Completed
16. How often, if ever, have you limited the scope of your we that met your needs?	ork/objectives because of difficulty obtaining biospecimens
Never (0%)	
Rarely (1-25%)	
Sometimes (26-50%)	
Often (51-75%)	
Usually (76-99%) Always (100%)	
Don't know	
Does not apply to me	
17. Typically speaking, what percentage of the time are you biorepository because of poor quality or other problems with	
Never (0%)	
Rarely (1-25%)	
Sometimes (26-50%)	
Often (51-75%)	
Usually (76-99%)	
Always (100%)	

Opt out of survey

On't know

Opes not apply to me

Save and Continue

Perceptions of the Quality of Biospecimens (cont'd)

	_	_	_		_	
07	n		1-1	4		

18. To what degree do the following existing sources meet your needs for "high quality" biospecimens?

	Never	Rarely	Some- times	Often	Usually	Always	Don't know	Not applicable
My patients/study participants/volunteers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other patients/volunteers in my organization		0	\circ		0		0	
Other medical care facilities (e.g., community hospitals)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other research institutions (e.g., SPORES, other academic hospitals)	0	0	0	0	\circ	0	0	0
Nonprofit biorepositories	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial biorepositories in the U.S.	0	0	\circ		0			
Commercial biorepositories outside the U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NCI's Cooperative Human Tissue Network (CHTN)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
change the work you conduct? That is, what poss development?	Sibilities	The second secon	oreate for	Turther	ng biome	ulcai rese	alon an	a product
								-

Opt out of survey

Save and Continue

Perceptions of a Standardized Repository for Biospecimens

% Completed

Please read the description below before answering the remaining questions:

National Cancer Biobank

The NCI is developing a long-range plan to:

- · Address the challenges raised by current biorepository practices and procedures
- · Investigate the current state of demand and supply of biospecimens around the country
- · Identify areas where increased resources would be helpful in increasing biospecimen supply

One possible way to increase resources to address unmet biospecimen needs would be to <u>develop a national cancer human specimen biobank</u>. The NCI envisions that a national cancer biorepository would:

- · be a nonprofit, public service entity
- · collect and store biospecimens of high quality
- · use an open and transparent access and distribution policy
- select tumor types and volumes that correspond to specific needs that exist in the research community, including normal tissue
- . be a resource that would complement, not replace, existing tissue collections
- be a resource that could provide infrastructure to groups without the required expertise to build their own biorepository
- include a comprehensive public database that captures clinical data, specimen handling data, and molecular profile data on all collected specimens

Opt out of survey Continue

If you experience any technical difficulties, please contact the survey administrator at User-Centered Design at survey@user-centereddesign.com

National Cancer Institute	U.S. National Institute	es of Health www.cand	er.gov
Perceptions of a Standardized Repository for Biospecin	nens		
(cont'd)	_	% Completed	
20. After reading this description, what is your initial reaction to the idea of "high quality" biospecimens?	creating a standar	dized, national repos	itory for
Mostly positive			
OPositive			
Somewhat positive			
 Somewhat negative 			
○ Negative			
Mostly negative			
Please elaborate. Tell us why you think this way. What potential benefits of	r drawbacks do yo	u foresee?	
		4	
Opt out of survey		Save and C	ontinue

Save and Continue

National Cancer Institu	ut
-------------------------	----

Perceptions of a Standardized Repository for Biospecimens cont'd)	% Completed
21. If a biorepository like the one described in this survey was created, how likely do you thin biospecimens from it for your work?	k you would be to obtain
 Definitely would Very likely Somewhat likely Somewhat unlikely Very unlikely Definitely would not 	
 Don't know Does not apply to me 22. How willing would you be to contribute biospecimens to a national resource like the one de 	escribed in this survey?
Completely willing Very willing Somewhat willing Somewhat unwilling Very unwilling Not at all willing	
Opt out of survey	Save and Continue
If you experience any technical difficulties, please contact the survey administration at User-Centered Design at survey@user-centereddesign.com	

Perceptions of a Standardized Repository for Biospecimens

sont a)	/6 Completed
23. Which of the following aspects do you think are the most important for a national resource to praspects that are most important to you.)	ovide? (Mark up to 5
Provide highly-annotated biospecimens Provide enough samples for statistical analyses Provide a central resource for investigators to access available biospecimens Provide quality criteria met by each biospecimen to allow researchers to choose biospecimen of their research Be available for inclusion in proposals as a trusted entity that could potentially expedite grant Provide a searchable database to quickly find out information about biospecimens and locate biospecimens Provide an equitable process to gain access to biospecimens Use an application process that appropriately matches the requirements of the proposed resecharacteristics of the biospecimens Serve as a standard for other groups that are establishing biorepositories Serve as a leader for standardized human subjects and HIPAA protocols to other groups collections.	support available arch and the
Establish standardized quality control and assurance mechanisms Provide standardized "reference samples" to serve as controls during validation of discovery technology development Enable comparison of findings across research studies Enable interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research Other (specify):	
Opt out of survey	Save and Continue
If you experience any technical difficulties, please contact the survey administrator	

at User-Centered Design at survey@user-centereddesign.com

Perceptions of a Standardized Repository for Biospecimens (cont'd)

% Completed

Establishment of appropriate procedures for being rovided access Quality of the biospecimens Quality of the biospecimens relevant to my work Quality of biospecimens will Quality of biospecimens will Quality of biospecimens work Quality of biospecimens will Quality of biospecimens work Quality of biospecimens Quality of biospecimens Quality of biospecimens work Quality of biospecimens Quality of biospecimens work Quality of biospecimens Quality of biospecime	expense of such a biorepository Establishment of appropriate procedures for being rovided access Quality of the biospecimens Evaluability of biospecimens relevant to my work Potential for underusage because researchers will ontinue to use their current sources for biospecimens Potential lack of long-term funding or commitment madequate infrastructure to manage such a large enterprise	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0
Availability of the biospecimens Availability of biospecimens relevant to my work Obtential for underusage because researchers will Continue to use their current sources for biospecimens Obtential lack of long-term funding or commitment Inadequate infrastructure to manage such a large Challenges posed by the U.S. medical system Intellectual property rights of investigators providing Challenges acknowledged appropriately for providing Challenges for getting access to biospecimens could be Investigators for the rights of human subjects Appropriate protections for the rights of human subjects	Establishment of appropriate procedures for being provided access Quality of the biospecimens Evailability of biospecimens relevant to my work Potential for underusage because researchers will continue to use their current sources for biospecimens Potential lack of long-term funding or commitment madequate infrastructure to manage such a large enterprise	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	0 0 0
Availability of biospecimens relevant to my work Potential for underusage because researchers will Potential lack of long-term funding or commitment Potential lack of long-term funding or commitment Inadequate infrastructure to manage such a large Intellectual property rights of investigators providing piospecimens Being acknowledged appropriately for providing piospecimens to the biorepository Process for getting access to biospecimens could be inwieldy or time-consuming Appropriate protections for the rights of human subjects	Potential for underusage because researchers will continue to use their current sources for biospecimens Potential lack of long-term funding or commitment madequate infrastructure to manage such a large enterprise	0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0
Potential for underusage because researchers will continue to use their current sources for biospecimens Potential lack of long-term funding or commitment Inadequate infrastructure to manage such a large enterprise Challenges posed by the U.S. medical system Intellectual property rights of investigators providing piospecimens Being acknowledged appropriately for providing piospecimens to the biorepository Process for getting access to biospecimens could be anwieldy or time-consuming Intellections for the rights of human subjects Appropriate protections for the rights of human subjects	Ovailability of biospecimens relevant to my work Potential for underusage because researchers will continue to use their current sources for biospecimens Potential lack of long-term funding or commitment madequate infrastructure to manage such a large enterprise	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0	0	0
continue to use their current sources for biospecimens Potential lack of long-term funding or commitment Inadequate infrastructure to manage such a large enterprise Challenges posed by the U.S. medical system Intellectual property rights of investigators providing piospecimens Being acknowledged appropriately for providing piospecimens to the biorepository Process for getting access to biospecimens could be unwieldy or time-consuming Appropriate protections for the rights of human subjects	Potential for underusage because researchers will continue to use their current sources for biospecimens Potential lack of long-term funding or commitment nadequate infrastructure to manage such a large enterprise	0 0 0	0 0	0	0	0	0
nadequate infrastructure to manage such a large enterprise Challenges posed by the U.S. medical system Intellectual property rights of investigators providing piospecimens Being acknowledged appropriately for providing piospecimens to the biorepository Process for getting access to biospecimens could be unwieldy or time-consuming Appropriate protections for the rights of human subjects	continue to use their current sources for biospecimens Potential lack of long-term funding or commitment nadequate infrastructure to manage such a large enterprise	0	0	0	0	0	0
Intellectual property rights of investigators providing poiospecimens Being acknowledged appropriately for providing poiospecimens to the biorepository Process for getting access to biospecimens could be unwieldy or time-consuming Appropriate protections for the rights of human subjects	nadequate infrastructure to manage such a large enterprise	0	0	0	0		
Challenges posed by the U.S. medical system Intellectual property rights of investigators providing piospecimens Being acknowledged appropriately for providing piospecimens to the biorepository Process for getting access to biospecimens could be unwieldy or time-consuming Appropriate protections for the rights of human subjects	enterprise	0	0				0
Challenges posed by the U.S. medical system Intellectual property rights of investigators providing biospecimens Being acknowledged appropriately for providing biospecimens to the biorepository Process for getting access to biospecimens could be unwieldy or time-consuming Appropriate protections for the rights of human subjects 25. What other concerns, if any, would you have about a standardized biorepository resource?					\circ	0	0
Diospecimens Being acknowledged appropriately for providing phospecimens to the biorepository Process for getting access to biospecimens could be unwieldy or time-consuming Appropriate protections for the rights of human subjects	Challenges posed by the U.S. medical system			0	0	0	
Process for getting access to biospecimens could be unwieldy or time-consuming Appropriate protections for the rights of human subjects		0	\circ	0	0	0	0
Appropriate protections for the rights of human subjects		0	0	0	0	0	0
		0	\circ	0	0	0	0
5. What other concerns, if any, would you have about a standardized biorepository resource?	Appropriate protections for the rights of human subjects						
	5. What other concerns, if any, would you have about a	standardize	ed biorepo	sitory reso	ource?		

Recommendations for Alternative Measures to Improve Access to	
High Quality" Biospecimens	% Completed
26. Of the following actions that NCI could take as an alternative to developing a national-scale bior quality" biospecimens, which of these alternatives would you consider worth pursuing? (Choose up to the control of the control o	
 Developing a virtual biorepository that links researchers to biospecimens at various host inst Supporting the infrastructure and science of biobanking with grants 	itutions
 Managing a consortium of cancer centers to share biorepository practices and samples Continuing or expanding research on best practices for collecting, processing, storing and disbiospecimens 	stributing high quality
Creating a smaller scale biorepository focused on specific or rare diseases Creating a smaller scale biorepository focused on reducing health disparities (e.g., collecting)	/providing
biospecimens from underserved populations)	providing
 Creating a smaller scale biorepository focused on providing biospecimens to particular resear investigators just beginning their careers) 	rchers (e.g.,
 Developing a public partnership or campaign to increase interest among the public in donating Developing a public partnership or campaign to increase interest among specific health care biospecimens 	providers in collecting
 Developing an outreach effort designed to foster greater collaboration and sharing among inventor 	estigators
Please share any other suggested approaches that come to mind for fulfilling the mission of the NC Biorepositories and Biospecimen Research to make high quality biospecimens available.	I Office of
	‡
Opt out of survey	Save and Continue
If you experience any technical difficulties, please contact the survey administrator at User-Centered Design at survey@user-centereddesign.com	

National Cancer Institute	U.S. National Institutes of Health www.cancer.gov
Final Thoughts	% Completed
27. Are there any other details about normal and cancer biospe mentioned that you would like to comment on? Please elabora	ecimens or biorepositories that have not yet been
	<u>^</u>
Opt out of survey	Complete Survey
If you experience any technical difficulties, at User-Centered Design at <u>surve</u>	

Survey Complete

% Completed

Thank you for completing this survey!

The information you provided will be useful as NCI explores issues and shapes solutions related to the availability of human specimens (biospecimens) for cancer research.