Accessing Services

Any cancer research that involves human subjects requires UVM Cancer Center PRMC and UVM IRB approvals and requires that investigators have completed the 'Protection of Human Subjects in Research' tutorial: http://www.uvm.edu/irb/tutorial/index.html.

Access to Biobank specimens requires the following:

- Consult with Biobank personnel to review available specimens necessary to investigate the research question; design protocol.
- Obtain UVM Cancer Center PRMC approval. For most projects this will require submission of a 'Laboratory Protocol' (see Initial Protocol Submission).
- Obtain IRB approval for PRMC approved project. For most projects this will require submission of Common Protocol Cover Form, Human Research Protocol, and Waiver Request.
    - Note: the use of coded Biobank specimens facilitates the IRB approval process.
- Biobank utilization approval and signing of the 'terms of use agreement' confirming that specimens will be used as per the approved project must be completed prior to specimen release.

Services

- Currently, services are provided at no cost to investigator.
- Search of Biobank databases for specimens meeting research project needs.
- Retrieval and distribution of de-identified/coded banked specimens.
- Potential for customized collection of specific sample types by consultation with Biobank personnel.
- Guidance with respect to formalities concerning the protection of human subjects, tissue ownership, limitations to how tissues may be used and responsibilities to UVM.

Contact Us

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On the web:
http://www.med.uvm.edu/uvmcancercenter/core-facilities/biobank

THE University of Vermont CANCER CENTER

THE University of Vermont MEDICAL CENTER

BIOBANK

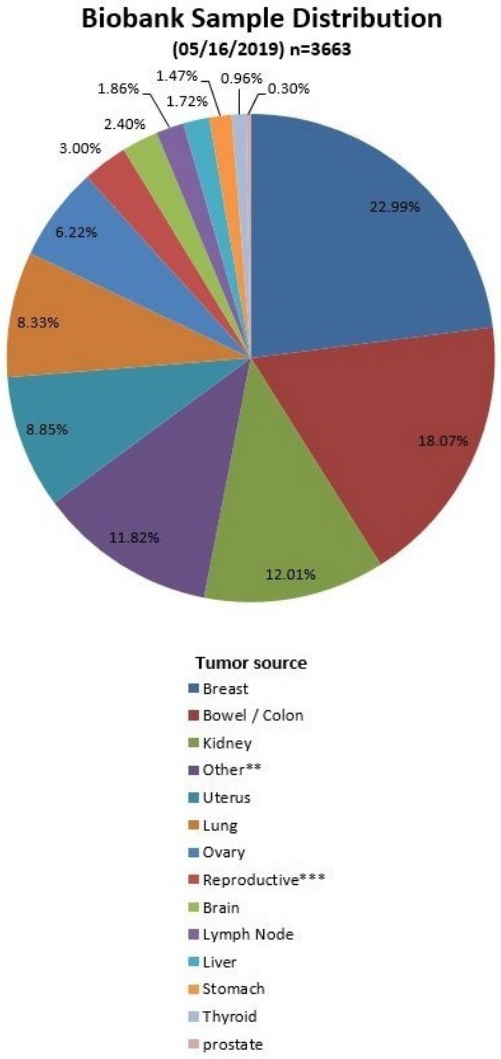
Fresh-frozen
tumor tissue
for
cancer research.

Health Science Research Facility
Room 315A
149 Beaumont Avenue
Burlington, Vermont USA 05405

About the Biobank

- The University of Vermont Cancer Center Biobank Core Facility provides fresh-frozen surgical resection specimens of tumor and (when possible) normal tissues to the University of Vermont Cancer Center and Medical Center researchers.
- The facility is managed and operated by the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.
- The Biobank Facility operations were extensively revised during 2014. On average 30+ new specimens are now collected each month. These are graded according to the time interval between surgical excision and flash freezing: Gold: <15 min., Silver: 15-30 min., Bronze: 31-120 min., and Test: >120 min.
- The Biobank operates according to national and international best practice guidelines and standard operating procedures (SOPs).
- The Biobank is approved to supply coded specimens to UVM researchers by the UVM Cancer Center Protocol Review Committee (PRC) and operates under the terms of two separate UVM Institutional Review Board (IRB) protocols.

Inventory



- ❑ As of May 2019 the Biobank has over 3650 samples [ongoing].
- ❑ the Biobank has over 500 samples from Mohs surgeries [ongoing].

Primary Facilities

- Two Revco -86°C UXF 500 BX Ultralow temperature freezers each with capacity for ~40,000 2ml vials; fully secured; alarmed for local and remote notifications of freezer failure events.
- Freezerworks Unlimited Management software v6.0 (Dataworks Develpopment, Inc., Lynwood, WA) for specimen and patient data recording and for freezer shelf space storage management. The software is an industry standard for Biobank specimen management and meets International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories (ISBER) and Office of Biological and Biospecimen Research (OBBR) Best Practices for Repositories guidelines.
- Airclean Systems Combination Workstation clean air environment, vertical laminar flow hood for secondary tissue dissection.