



St Vincent's Centre for Applied Medical Research

Biorepository

Facilitating Research through comprehensive Biospecimen Resource Management on the St Vincent's Hospital Research Campus, Darlinghurst, Sydney, Australia.



St Vincent's Biorepository was established in 2010 to provide St Vincent's Hospital Darlinghurst researchers with infrastructure to help coordinate and facilitate collection, processing and storage of human biospecimens for use in biomedical research and clinical trials.

St Vincent's Centre for Applied Medical Research (AMR) is the lead partner for the St Vincent's Research Precinct for the provision of cryogenics infrastructure. AMR is also responsible for the training of users of this infrastructure from across the Precinct.

St Vincent's Hospital Sydney endorsed a policy that recognises the contribution that is made by those who donate human tissues and samples for medical research. This policy observes the fundamental ethical principle of respect of the donor, including the provision of fully informed consent, professional collection, processing and secure storage of biospecimens to maintain confidentiality and privacy.

The SVH AMR Biorepository currently holds extensive collections of blood, tissue and derivative biospecimens [including but not limited to plasma, serum, DNA, nucleic acid extracts, genetically modified organisms (GMO), reference materials, cell lines, CSF, body fluids] from individuals participating in clinical research projects primarily with HIV, viral Hepatitis or a range of other emerging infectious diseases (influenza, tuberculosis, sexually transmissible infections) of public health importance.



A significant feature of the AMR Biorepository is careful management of the many issues around ethics and compliance that pertain to the use of biospecimens in medical research.

We seek to harmonise, wherever possible, technical procedures, material transfer agreements, and consent forms between all parties involved in an attempt to streamline administrative ‘red tape’ which can impede productive collaboration.

Contributions to the Biorepository are received through a growing number of investigators through a variety of established and recognized networks across multiple sites often associated with large scale multicenter and international observational, epidemiological and clinical research studies.

The St Vincent’s AMR Biorepository services are available on a cost recovery basis and managed under a negotiated Service Agreement Contract

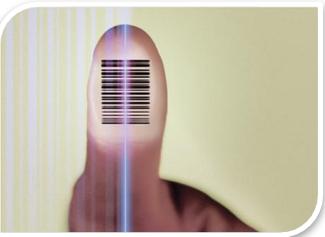
Capacity Statement



There are currently 3 full time staff associated with the daily operation of the Biorepository particularly logistics and biospecimen processing. A further 2 staff are involved with nucleic acid extraction and custom analytical testing services.



150sqm access controlled facility with design features and engineering controls providing atmospheric monitoring and safeguards to mitigate risks associated with compressed and cryogenic gases.



5 large capacity vapour phase nitrogen tanks = 400 000 vials (4000 boxes)

10 x large capacity ultracold -80°C freezers =480 000 vials (4800 boxes)

Combined total: 880 000 vials



All ultracold storage is continuously monitored and temperatures are reported over a web enabled interface.

Intelligent inventory systems track the biospecimen location within the facility (ORACLE and FrezerPro Enterprise)



Biospecimens may be submitted in primary form and processed for storage real time by the Biorepository team. Alternatively samples may be received from off site processing facilities in the form of cryoboxes with frozen biospecimens inside. The Biorepository would then supply box level storage and management.

Affiliations / Accreditation:

NATA certified facility

The Biorepository processing team participates in the

IVRN PBMC QC program every 6 months.

Further information

Further details regarding fees and services provided may be directed to Ms Kate Merlin +61 2 8382 4941 or Philip Cunningham +61 2 8382 4900 or email trials@amr.org.au

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