

## UT Southwestern Biobank Repository Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### What will my tissue samples be used for?

Investigators use samples to study the molecular and genetic makeup of cancer. The goals are to understand the mechanism of disease, to learn how to affect disease progression, and to teach medical students, residents, and postdoctoral students.

### What tissue is collected by the biobank repository?

Examples of tissue samples commonly collected by the repository include blood, tumor, urine, ascites fluid, and cheek swabs. Different tissues are collected based on the medically necessary procedure determined by your physician.

### Will extra tissue be removed during surgery if I participate?

No. Your surgeon will remove the amount of tissue that he/ she deems medically necessary. Your surgery will be unaffected by participating in the repository. The only aspect that is altered is how the medical waste (tissue left over after diagnosis) is stored.

### Will I be asked to provide additional samples?

If no leftover blood or bodily fluids exist as part of your normal procedure, you may be asked to provide additional samples.

### Can I see the tissue that was removed during surgery?

The repository does not have the ability or resources to photograph surgical specimens. However, your doctor may offer this service. You should discuss your wishes with your physician.

### Will participating in the repository interfere with diagnosis?

No. The biobank repository only removes samples from the tissue left over after diagnosis is made. The pathologist over your case will only provide tissue no longer needed for diagnosis.

### Who will call me if I am contacted for follow-up information?

A member of the biobank repository staff will call you, likely the manager or principal investigator.

### Does my doctor know I am being asked to participate?

Yes. The repository gets permission from physicians to approach their patients.

### Can I talk to my doctor first before I sign the consent?

Yes. You should be comfortable with your decision to participate. If you prefer to discuss participation with your physician, you can make your decision whether or not to participate at the end of your visit.

### Can I take the consent home to think about it?

Yes. You should be comfortable with your decision to participate. If you prefer to take the consent home with you to have more time to read the consent, you can bring it back with you to any visit with your physician.

### How will my privacy be protected?

All samples will be identified by a unique number assigned to each sample. This number will not contain any information related to you. All data collected will be kept in locked filing cabinets and in a password-protected database.

### If I have more questions, whom can I ask?

You can call the Principal Investigator of the tissue bank, Dr. Cheryl Lewis, at 214-648-7597, to discuss any questions or concerns you may have. You may also wish to discuss your participation with your physician.

For more information, visit [utswmedicine.org/cancer/patients/biobank.html](http://utswmedicine.org/cancer/patients/biobank.html).