

THE NEBRASKA BIOBANK

The Nebraska Biobank is a joint effort of the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) and The Nebraska Medical Center. The aim of the Nebraska Biobank is to speed research in health care.

The Nebraska Biobank is made up of left-over blood samples from patients who want to take part. Health facts of the person such as illness, but not their name, will be linked to the stored sample so that researchers can ask for certain types of samples for their studies. These samples will be used by researchers to learn how to improve the diagnosis and treatment of disease and to better understand normal life processes.

OFTEN ASKED QUESTIONS

Why should you take part in the Nebraska Biobank? By letting your samples be used by the Nebraska Biobank you may help researchers study illnesses that touch Nebraskans and others. Heart disease, cancer, asthma, diabetes, and Alzheimer's disease are just a few of the problems the Nebraska Biobank will help researchers understand.

What samples will be banked? The liquid part of the blood (plasma or serum) and DNA will be saved and stored. DNA is the stored information we inherit from our parents that directs how we grow and change.

Will any person know that this is my blood? No.

Will someone let me know if my sample shows I am at risk for health problems? No.

If I choose not to take part in the Biobank will it change my care? No. Whether you choose to take part or not, your care will not change.

Will extra samples be taken for the Biobank? No. Only those samples which are left over after normal blood tests will be banked.

Will this cost me anything extra? No.

What if I do not want my blood to be used this way? You will be given the chance to “opt out” from taking part. You can say you do not want your extra blood saved in the Biobank.

Can I change my mind? Yes. You may change your status to “opt out” whenever you sign a new “consent to treat” form or by calling the Research Subject Advocate office at: 402-559-6941 or e-mail: unmcrsa@unmc.edu.

Questions? Call: 402-559-6941