Biorepository and Research Histology Service Core

The facility provides a consultative service to determine investigator requirements for human tissue and fluid biospecimens in translational research, and then arranges procurement as feasible. After meeting with the investigators about their respective research needs, Core personnel determine the best mechanism to obtain samples and implement the collection. This is made possible by the physical location of this Dean’s Core in the Icahn School of Medicine Department of Pathology, and the ability to collect both deidentified and consented ‘waste’ biospecimens not required for clinical diagnosis. If the requested specimens are not feasible through the Mount Sinai health care system alternative sources will be explored.

The facility also offers basic histology services with the capability to process, embed and section fixed and frozen tissues for the Mount Sinai research community. We also prepare unstained slides suitable for a variety of applications such as histochemistry, immunohistochemistry, immunofluorescence, in situ hybridization as well as hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) stained sections and basic histochemical stains for routine light microscopic evaluation. The Core has the requisite equipment for a fully operational translational research laboratory including tissue processor, embedding station, microtome, cryostat, automated immunostainer, complete digital scanning system, image analysis software, and a semi-automated tissue micro-arrayer. The Core is also able to provide DNA / RNA extractions from all tissue types as well as blood samples and has the capabilities to routinely isolate circulating tumor cells, cell-free DNA as well as serum / plasma.

PDFs provided on the Cores website instruct and guide users on “Human Tissue and Fluids Handling Risks and Safety Precautions”, “Human Specimen Single User Agreement” and “Commercial Use Policy and Disclosure”. The Core serves to educate investigators about the appropriate human subjects considerations when requests for human materials are made, thus assuring that all human biospecimen applications are in full compliance with HIPAA and IRB regulations.

For more information:
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