

testimonials



Knowing we can donate Tucker's left over blood to possibly help other animals in the future is comforting to us.

— Holly and Chris Hackett, donors

Biobank samples allowed us to identify ways that canine lymphomas are similar to human lymphomas, leading to better targeted, less toxic treatments for dogs and people.

— Kristy Richards, PhD, MD

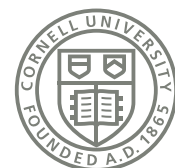
It's hard to lose a member of your family, but it means so much to know that DNA from our Labs, Ben and Maddie, are making a difference in research and development of new therapies.

— Paula and Steve Piatt, donors

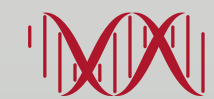


FOR MORE INFORMATION

Talk to your veterinarian or contact the Cornell Veterinary Biobank at vetbiobank@cornell.edu



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You Can Help
Medical Research
Your Pet Can Help
Save Other Pets



CORNELL VETERINARY BIOBANK

Cornell University Veterinary Specialists
ADVANCED CARE + 24-HOUR EMERGENCY

Medical researchers use biological samples to find new and better ways to diagnose and treat diseases that affect pets and humans. You can help by donating biological samples from your pet to the **Cornell Veterinary Biobank.**



Frequently Asked Questions

What types of samples are collected?

Samples (also called biospecimens) consist of materials such as blood or tissue.

Why should I donate samples from my pet?

Many donors tell us that they like the idea of helping researchers make advances in medicine that improve disease treatments and outcomes for pets. Some owners find that donating samples helps them cope with a pet's death, an upsetting diagnosis, or the challenge of caring for a pet that is sick.

Can I elect not to donate samples?

Yes, of course. This is entirely your decision. Please tell a Client Service Coordinator or a member of our medical team, and we will note this in your pet's medical record.

How do you collect samples?

We do not collect samples just for the Biobank, unless specifically requested. All of the samples we collect are in the course of medical diagnostic testing as guided by the medical needs of your pet.

+ **Blood samples:** If we are collecting blood from your pet, we will, if we deem it medically appropriate, and unless you request otherwise, collect an additional 3-5 ml (less than 1 teaspoon) of blood for the Bank.

+ **Tissue samples:** These are only collected as part of a medical procedure. If we are collecting biopsies, via endoscopy or surgery, there is almost always surplus tissue that can be saved without any additional time or invasive procedure.

How can I make a donation?

We collect samples at the Cornell veterinary hospitals in Ithaca, NY and Stamford, CT. Ask your veterinarian about the kinds of samples your pet may be able to contribute.

What happens after I contribute my pet's sample?

If a sample is collected as part of a medical procedure, your veterinarian will first complete all diagnostic tests. Then, any unused material may be sent to the biobank along with information about your pet's general health.

May I choose how my pet's samples and information are used?

Just as blood donors can't specify who may receive their blood, you won't be able to choose how your pet's samples and information will be used, nor will you be contacted when they are sent to researchers.

Who decides how my pet's samples will be used?

A committee of experts reviews each request for samples to make sure the proposed research is ethical, useful, and based on good science. This committee must approve the project before the Biobank will give researchers samples and health information.



How long will my pet's samples and information be used?

There is no limit on how long samples and information can be stored and used. Samples can be kept and used in research unless the owner asks to have them destroyed.

Can I change my mind?

Samples and information that have already been given to researchers cannot be returned. The results of research from your pet's samples or information cannot be changed or stopped. You have the right to withdraw your consent for the use of samples and information that have not yet been used in any research. If you decide to withdraw consent, please contact us.

Will I receive the results of research done with my pet's samples?

No, but you will receive the results from any medical procedures, such as a biopsy or blood test, that were performed on your pet for diagnostic purposes. Your name, address, and other identifying information are removed from the records when samples are sent to researchers. Researchers may publish articles about their findings but they will not identify whose samples they used.

What information is shared regarding my pet?

A researcher may require certain information about your pet in order to learn more about the specific disease he or she is studying. Information that researchers need may include:

- Species
- Breed
- Age
- Sex
- Medical conditions

How do I know that my pet's information will be kept confidential?

Protecting privacy is one of our top priorities. Biobanks are not allowed to release personal information without your consent. Your address, phone number, and anything else that could identify you and/or your pet will be removed before the records are sent to the researcher.

Are there any adverse effects to contributing a sample?

No, there are no adverse effects related to biobanking per se. We are not performing any blood draws or procedures that we would not otherwise be performing in the normal course of your pet's diagnosis or treatment. If you have any questions regarding adverse effects related to these diagnostic procedures, please do not hesitate to discuss them with your medical team.

