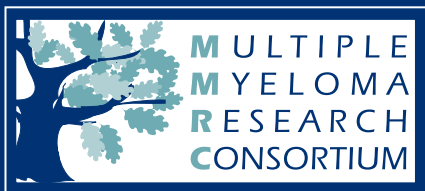


ADVANCING MYELOMA RESEARCH

WHAT PATIENTS CAN DO TO HELP



■ Letter to Patients

In recent years, researchers have made many scientific advances that have led to the development of new myeloma treatments.

However, a major challenge in advancing myeloma research and developing new treatments for myeloma is a lack of myeloma tissue samples. One of the ways patients can help doctors overcome this challenge is by contributing a tissue sample to the MMRC Tissue Bank.



Patients who are thinking about contributing a tissue sample to the MMRC Tissue Bank may have questions. This brochure was created to answer patients' questions about contributing tissue to the MMRC Tissue Bank, such as:

- Why is tissue so important in myeloma research?
- How are researchers using the MMRC Tissue Bank?
- How can patients contribute tissue to the MMRC Tissue Bank?

We value every tissue sample we receive.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink that reads "Rafael Fonseca". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rafael Fonseca, MD

Director of the MMRC Tissue Bank

■ ■ ■ What is the MMRC?

The Multiple Myeloma Research Consortium, also known as the MMRC, brings together leading myeloma research institutions to speed the development of better, more effective treatments for myeloma.

The MMRC was founded in 2004 by Kathy Giusti, a myeloma patient, and with the help of many researchers and scientists. It was their belief that the best myeloma researchers together would make more progress against myeloma than any one researcher working along.

Today the MMRC is comprised of 11 institutions:

- **Dana-Farber Cancer Institute** - Boston, Massachusetts
- **H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute** - Tampa, Florida
- **Mayo Clinic** - Phoenix and Scottsdale, Arizona
Jacksonville, Florida and Rochester, Minnesota
- **City of Hope National Medical Center** - Duarte, California
- **Emory University Winship Cancer Institute** - Atlanta, Georgia
- **Hackensack University Medical Center** - Hackensack, New Jersey
- **Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center** - Columbus, Ohio
- **Roswell Park Cancer Institute** - Buffalo, New York
- **St. Vincent Comprehensive Cancer Center** - New York, New York
- **University Health Network (Princess Margaret Hospital)** - Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- **University of Chicago** - Chicago, Illinois

These institutions are now conducting important research efforts to improve current myeloma treatments and to develop new treatments for myeloma

■ ■ ■ What is the MMRC Tissue Bank?



The MMRC Tissue Bank is a centralized repository of tissue samples contributed by myeloma patients. It is located at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Arizona.

After the tissue sample is collected by the doctor, it is shipped directly to the MMRC Tissue Bank, where it will be used for myeloma research.

WHAT IS A TISSUE SAMPLE?

A tissue sample is a small amount of **bone marrow aspirate** and **blood**.

- A bone marrow aspirate is taken during a **regularly scheduled** bone marrow aspirate
- Blood is taken during a **regularly scheduled** blood draw

The MMRC values every tissue sample it receives. That is why each sample is collected, shipped, and analyzed in the same careful way. As a result, researchers are now working with the highest-quality tissue.

Tissue in the MMRC Tissue Bank will be used **only** for myeloma research.

■ Why is tissue so important for myeloma research?

Tissue plays an important role in myeloma research. Researchers need tissue to:

- **Test new therapies**

By first studying a drug's effect on myeloma patient tissue samples, researchers are better able to predict if a new drug will work in patients.

- **Learn which drugs work best in different patients**

By linking a patient's tissue to how he or she responds to a treatment, researchers are beginning to understand why some drugs help some patients more than others.

- **Identify new druggable targets for myeloma**

By studying many myeloma tissue samples, researchers are able to identify potential genetic targets for myeloma. This is an important step in developing new drugs that effectively treat myeloma.



■ How is tissue collected?

Tissue is collected during a regularly scheduled bone marrow aspirate and blood draw. Myeloma patients often have these procedures as part of their care.

At the time of a patient's **regularly scheduled** bone marrow aspirate and blood draw, a doctor will collect up to an additional:

- 2 tablespoons of bone marrow aspirate from a patient's hipbone
- 3 tablespoons of blood from a vein in a patient's arm

Usually, there is no significant extra risk or discomfort caused by collecting additional blood or bone marrow aspirate.

Patients can contribute a tissue sample to the MMRC Tissue Bank each time they need a bone marrow aspirate as part of their care.



What about a patient's privacy?

Each patient's privacy is important to us.

That is why each tissue sample is labeled with a unique identification number as soon as it is collected. This number allows a patient's sample to be stored at the MMRC Tissue Bank and used by researchers without anyone knowing whose sample it is.

■ How can patients contribute to the MMRC Tissue Bank?

If a patient is already being treated at an MMRC Institution:

- Patients should advise their doctor that they want to contribute a tissue sample to the MMRC Tissue Bank the next time they need a bone marrow aspirate and blood draw.



If a patient is not being treated at an MMRC Institution

- Patients can still contribute a tissue sample by going to an MMRC Institution for their next bone marrow aspirate and blood draw. After contributing a tissue sample, these patients will continue to receive care from their regular doctor. For information on how to do this, contact us by email at info@themmrc.org or by phone at 203-652-0220.

For more information, visit the MMRC Web-site at www.patienttissue.org.

MMRC INSTITUTIONS

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute
Mayo Clinic Cancer Center
City of Hope National Medical Center
Emory University
Hackensack University Medical Center
Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center
Roswell Park Cancer Institute
Saint Vincent Catholic Medical Centers of New York
University Health Network (Princess Margaret Hospital)
University of Chicago

■ Why should patients contribute tissue to the MMRC Tissue Bank?

Myeloma patients have a unique chance to help advance myeloma research by contributing their tissue to the MMRC Tissue Bank.

Patients who contribute to the MMRC Tissue Bank are helping researchers answer important questions about myeloma. This will help doctors improve the treatments available today and develop entirely new treatments for myeloma.

“A good way to make a difference in myeloma is by contributing a tissue sample to the MMRC Tissue Bank. We cannot thank patients enough for each sample we receive.”

–Dr. Kenneth Anderson
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

“I am happy to contribute tissue to the MMRC Tissue Bank because I know my tissue will be used to help researchers develop new treatments for myeloma patients.”

–Mary Jo Elhilow
Diagnosed August 2003



Unless otherwise credited, photos use models and are for illustrative purposes only.