

## Our Vision

To provide clinical researchers with an accessible repository of wellcharacterised human biological specimens, processed and stored under cGLP conditions.

## Get in touch

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## What is SVI Biobank?

The SVI Biobank is a storage resource and repository for research groups, clinical trials organisations and others requiring contract storage of biological samples. Managed by and housed at NRL's primary laboratory facility on the St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne campus, the SVI Biobank stores human specimens – such as whole blood, plasma, serum and tissue – for any disease type



*Helen Macpherson Smith Trust is an independent philanthropic trust established by Helen Macpherson Schutt (née Smith) in 1951. Since HMSTrust was established, \$126 million has been approved in grants to a wide range of charitable institutions and projects.*



# Biobank

**Tissue and blood biorepository  
for research and CRO's**



## Who we are

The SVI Biobank was established in 2015 as a new facility at NRL (a division of St Vincent's Institute of Medical Research, SVI), with the support of the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust (HMST).

Since then, the Biobank has grown a collection of more than 22,000 specimens from more than 600 participants. Primarily a bank of blood products (including plasma, serum, PBMC, and whole blood), the Biobank also houses a growing collection of tissue samples.

Biobank has capacity, staff and skills to store many more sample types (such as faecal samples, nasal swabs, etc), and to work with clinical researchers to ensure all study-specific sample collection needs are met.

## Quality Statement

The SVI Biobank is certified by the Immunovirology Network (IVRN) as competent in the processing of PBMC, and all of our biobank staff participate in this ongoing quality assurance program. As a facility of the NRL, the SVI Biobank works within the ISO 9001 quality framework, and is supported by a quality management system, and staffed specimen reception. Biobank's freezers and fridges are temperature monitored and recorded 24-7. Together, these processes ensure robust sample handling protocols and confidence in change-of-custody and storage of samples for our users

## What we offer

The SVI Biobank offers an end-to-end service, encompassing:

- pre-study consultation and planning
- sample collection and processing
- troubleshooting and ongoing adaptation to changing study needs
- 24/7 temperature monitored freezers
- secure de-identified data collation

We offer the complete package for research study needs, tailoring services to the needs of each individual study. SVI Biobank can store samples for any disease type; we currently store diabetes, cancer, hepatitis, HIV and HTLV samples. We supply safe storage and access to critical samples for Australian, New Zealand and global teams undertaking:

- Primary research
- Translational research
- Clinical research
- Clinical trials

We can work with you prior to grant submission, to advise on protocols and to provide budgeting information.



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*Let us take the worry out of off site specimen storage for clinical trials.*

## Our Service

We tailor our services to the needs of each individual study. We can work with you prior to the start of your study to advise on your protocol What we offer and provide budgeting information.



## Sample Retrieval

Application to retrieve Biobank samples is open to any party with a valid, current human ethics approval in place. All applications are reviewed by the SVI Biobank Governance Committee, and will be referred to the original sample depositor, where appropriate. Users who have not deposited a sample in Biobank will pay a proportion of the costs of banking the sample at the time of retrieval.

## Pricing Structure

SVI Biobank's charges are based solely on cost recovery for services provided. Pricing structures are tailored to the individual needs of each study, based on the number and type of samples to be collected. In the case of investigator-initiated studies with no immediate funding available, we can offer a 'back-ended' cost model, where the immediate cost to deposit samples is kept to a minimum and the remainder charged at the time of sample retrieval.

