



**OBBR**

Office of Biorepositories  
and Biospecimen Research

*The Laboratory Robotics Interest Group*  
**Biospecimen Research Database**

**April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009**



# Biospecimen Research Database (BRD): What is it?

**OBBR** Office of Biorepositories  
and Biospecimen Research

- **Opportunity**
  - Designed to address the problem of no reliable means to find well vetted, sufficiently expressed experimental protocols for creating biospecimens.
  - Premise = Pre-analytical variables can effect biospecimen integrity
- **Method**
  - Two curators searched through 75 peer-review journals and identified 155 papers/300 studies of interest to biospecimen science
  - Papers/studies tagged with controlled vocabulary for search; editorial for “summary of findings”; and relevant Experimental Factors
- **Solution**
  - Is a publically available and searchable web-based literature database
  - Contains published and peer-reviewed data pertinent to biospecimen science
  - Is curated to highlight and summarize those results that provide further insight into the field of biospecimen science
  - Is indexed based upon the variables address, and the biospecimens and technology platforms utilized



# Biospecimen Research Database (BRD): Where can I find it?

**OBBR** Office of Biorepositories  
and Biospecimen Research

- Via the Office of Biorepositories and Biospecimen Science  
<http://biospecimens.cancer.gov>

OBBR Quick Links

OBBR Toolbox | Podcast | Funding Opps

caBIG™ Tools  
Human Specimens for Research  
The Specimen Resource Locator  
Biospecimen Research Database  
Providing Your Tissue for Research  
NCI Best Practices for Biospecimen Resources

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE National Cancer Institute U.S. National Institutes of Health | www.cancer.gov

OBBR Office of Biorepositories and Biospecimen Research

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About OBBR | NCI Best Practices | Biospecimen Research Network | Related Initiatives | Resources

Overview  
Biospecimen Science  
BRN Symposia  
Biospecimen Research Database  
Lifecycle of Biospecimen  
Funding Opportunities

BR's mission is to ensure that human research are of the highest quality.  
a common biorepository infrastructure that  
ence, in order to facilitate multi-institutional,  
studies.

Learn more

- Or directly at <http://biospecimens.cancer.gov/brd>





# Biospecimen Research Database (BRD): The future

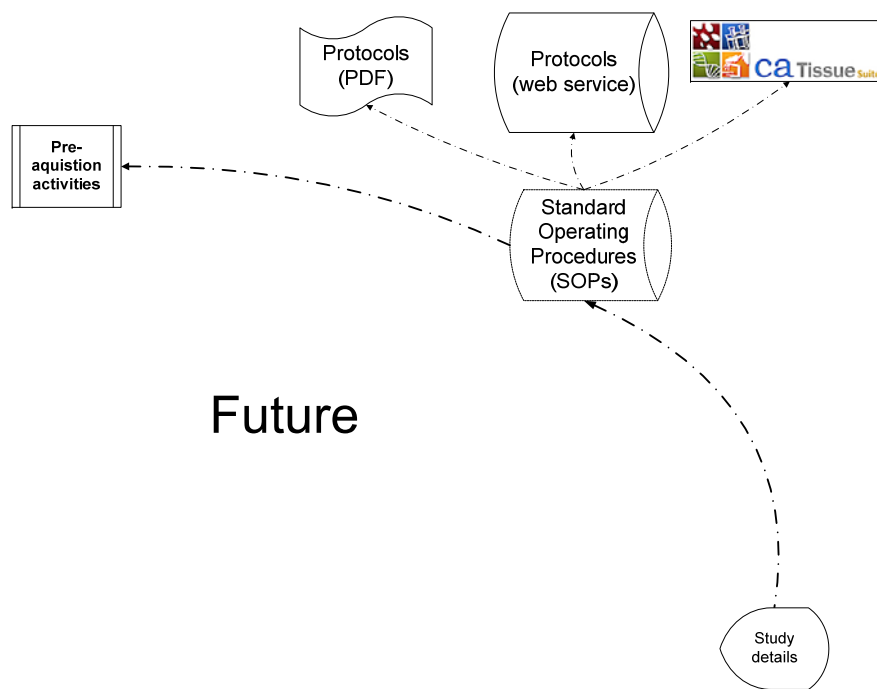
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*Levels of structure to Standard Operating Procedures:*

- 1) free text (present day)
- 2) a structured form/template in a static file
- 3) entered directly into data fields in a application

*Possible methods to distribute Standard Operating Procedures:*

- 1) Peer-review journals
- 2) As a downloadable PDF file
- 3) Through a service



Future

## • Content

- User growth through more papers and studies
- Continual population with pertinent research topics
- Meta-analysis of curated papers
- User community (forums, wiki, blogs)

## • Functionality

- Support Standard Operating Procedures (and Protocols)
  - Exchange structured protocols with biorepositories systems
- Integration with caBIG™ tools (caTissue, caDSR, CSM)
- Linkage to data from Biospecimen Research Network (BRN) studies



## Biospecimen Research Database (BRD) Integrating with caBIG™

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- **By providing controlled vocabulary for curators**
  - for diagnoses, tissue types, analysis platforms, experimental factors etc
  - BRN is a user of existing relevant standards
  - BRN is a source of domain expertise for standardization in these areas
- **By providing an application for Standard Operating Procedures**
  - For integration with caTissue
  - Protocols and preprocessing variables
- **By providing a means to connect to BRN study data**
  - For integration with caArray and other results data

