

NBTR - Additional samples v2.1

In addition to examining the brain and spinal cord it can be very valuable for researchers to be able to study samples from other areas of the body. The brain is often not the only area affected by symptoms and in many cases the changes in the brain are linked very closely with changes in other parts of the body. For instance vascular dementia is closely linked with changes in the heart and vascular system. Another example might be in mitochondrial diseases where there are often multiple changes in many different areas of the body including for example in the muscles. Learning more about how these changes are linked may be able to give us clues about what exactly is happening in the brain as well as about the disease process as a whole.

How large are the samples?

Samples taken will be less than 2cm. They will not be whole organs or muscles. It is not really possible to take small samples from eyes though so if these are included they are stored whole.

Where and how will they be stored?

Samples will be stored in exactly the same way as brain and spinal cord samples in secure purpose built facilities. Some samples, such as muscles, may need to be processed in a slightly different way but all are subject to exactly the same degree of care and attention.

What about my preferences?

If you have stated any preferences or restrictions on your consent in the main consent form we will apply those to these samples as well unless you tell us otherwise.

Newcastle Brain Tissue Resource

Information about
donation of additional
samples