

Newcastle Brain Tissue Resource

An established research tissue bank run by Newcastle University in conjunction with the Medical Research Council and local NHS trusts.

Part of the MRC Brain banks and Brains for Dementia Research networks (funded by Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer's Research UK).

Samples are provided to researchers who demonstrate the ethical and scientific soundness of their projects.





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Donating Brain Tissue for Research

Version 2 30 November 2018 IRAS 255808

Why donate By donating brain tissue after death brain tissue you can make a valuable contribution to for research? the donor and the presence or absence of of the tissue, so we would also ask you to complete a short questionnaire-based assessment.

As people are living longer, disorders associated with ageing, such as dementia, Parkinson's Disease and stroke are becoming an increasing problem. Scientists need to discover more about how these diseases develop and progress. Rarer disorders such as mitochondrial diseases also desperately need further investigation.

medical research. Detailed information about particular symptoms increases the usefulness

There is still no substitute for examining samples of real brain tissue, including tissue from those without these diseases. It helps us understand how normal ageing affects the brain and which changes underlie particular memory and neurological problems and leads to a better understanding of the causes of disease.

If you are interested in brain tissue donation, it is usually better to make plans well in advance to allow your family time to discuss it.

What does it involve?

Brain tissue is very specialized, so it is not enough to take just a sample. We need to study the whole brain, as the location, as well as the nature, of any changes may be very important.

The donation procedure does not take long and there are no visible signs that donation has taken place.

There are no extra costs to the donor's family and your funeral arrangements are not delayed. Other than letting us know, there is no extra burden placed on your family.

If you would like to find out more please contact us. We would be happy to answer your questions and talk you through the registration process.

