



# Donating Samples to the NIGMS Repository

The NIGMS Repository is a **biobank**, a centralized collection of biological samples and genetic material (cell lines and DNA) used for research

Hosted by the  
Coriell Institute for  
Medical Research

a non-profit research institute with the  
mission to accelerate scientific discovery

[www.coriell.org](http://www.coriell.org)



Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, the NIGMS Repository is a resource for scientists conducting cell biology and genetic research around the world. With nearly **12,000 cell lines** and over **6,000 DNA samples**, the NIGMS Repository has been entrusted to the Coriell Institute to distribute samples to qualified researchers for over 40 years, due to its unmatched quality and its accessibility to the scientific community.

## Why should I donate to the Repository?

- ✓ **Contribute to the creation of a centralized, accessible resource for genetic and medical research:**  
--scientists use these samples to: advance biomedical research, develop new treatments for diseases, understand gene functions, search for cures  
--7,000+ research papers have cited our samples
- ✓ **Pay it forward!**  
--the more extensive the NIGMS collection is, the more likely future research will be able to develop treatments for similar disorders  
--"Back-to-submitter" policy means that the donor of a sample can choose a researcher to receive a complimentary sample from our catalog

## Who should donate to the Repository?

- ✓ **Individuals diagnosed with a genetic disease:**  
--could be a heritable disorder or chromosomal abnormality  
--unaffected family members' samples can be useful too
- ✓ **Patients with rare diseases:**  
--the more clinical diagnoses we have, the greater the potential for future research
- ✓ **Underrepresented populations:**  
--having samples from a range of diverse ethnic backgrounds allows researchers to generalize results across more of the human population



**CORIELL INSTITUTE**  
FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

**Questions?**

**[NIGMS@coriell.org](mailto:NIGMS@coriell.org)**

## How do I donate to the Repository?

- ✓ **1. Reach out to us at:**  
**[NIGMS@coriell.org](mailto:NIGMS@coriell.org)**
- ✓ **2. Talk to your physician about collecting a biospecimen**  
(blood and/or skin biopsy)
- ✓ **3. Submit sample in pre-paid collection kit (provided by us) with submission forms and clinical paperwork**

*And then what do you do with my samples?*

- ✓ **1. Isolate cells from sample, and expand in culture**
- ✓ **2. Perform rigorous quality control checks**
- ✓ **3. Store processed samples in freezers, and distribute to medical researchers worldwide**