



This policy applies to research collaboration with other scientists and institutions, and to sharing Registries' data and materials with others.

Collaboration with other institutions is encouraged

To maximize the scientific worth and output of the unique materials and data under its purview, the Registries encourages and actively seeks collaboration with other investigators and institutions. Collaboration is sought to compliment rather than duplicate the capabilities of the Registries, and to facilitate the efforts of the Registries in achieving its primary goal. Collaboration may take the form of joint evaluations of data, tissues, or other Registries materials, preparation of articles for peer-reviewed literature, or preparation of joint research proposals to a potential sponsor.

Definition of collaborative researchers

Data, tissue and other unique materials collected by the Registries may be made available to other scientists under the following conditions:

1. Potential research collaborators must submit to the Registries a written proposal that describes the specific materials requested, and includes the proposed usage of the requested materials.
2. Research collaborators must provide written assurance that the Registries' policies with respect to human subjects, informed consent, privacy of the Registrants and their next-of-kin, and national security will be followed as agreed in Form 106.
3. Research collaborators must furnish copies of the approval documents issued by their Institutional Review Boards.

Dissemination of Registries' data and biological materials

Registries' data are classified into three levels, based on the potential for identification of the donors and dissemination of the data to other researchers. Access to the data will be restricted as follows:

Level 1: Data include personal identifiers and specific dates of events with specific sites of employment. These data are available, by written request, to medical and radiation protection groups from the worksites of the Registrants. Access to these data is restricted by site. For example, medical and radiation protection personnel at a work site may access data of Registrants only from that site. Signed confidentiality statements (Form 106) must be received from the responsible person(s) at the sites requesting data.

Level 2: Data include no personal identifiers; however, specific dates of events and general descriptions of the sites of employment are included. These data are available to collaborative researchers as defined above.

Level 3: Data include no personal identifiers, only general times of employment and radiologic events, and general information regarding worksites. These data are available on the USTUR website (www.ustur.wsu.edu).

Materials from the National Human Radiobiological Tissue Repository and the National Radiobiology Archives are available

only to those researchers who qualify as collaborative researchers, as described above.

Publication of data and results from collaborative research

Scientific manuscripts and technical reports based on collaborative research involving previously unpublished Registries' data, tissue samples, or other materials, or which involve collaborative effort by Registries staff, shall include, as appropriate, one or more Registries

staff members as co-authors. If the Registries' involvement has been limited to a loan or provision of tissues or other materials, and the resulting manuscript or technical report has been prepared exclusively by other investigators without consultation with the Registries staff, or inclusion of unpublished Registries' data or evaluation, no Registries staff need be included as co-authors, but a written acknowledgement of the Registries as the source of the tissue or other materials shall be included.