



## ■ Contributing Tissue to the MMRC Tissue Bank: Questions & Answers

### What is the MMRC?

The MMRC (Multiple Myeloma Research Consortium, Inc.) brings together myeloma researchers from four leading research institutions to speed the development of new myeloma treatments.

### What research institutions are part of the MMRC?

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute  
Boston, MA

H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center &  
Research Institute  
Tampa, FL

Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, MN  
Phoenix & Scottsdale, AZ

Princess Margaret Hospital  
Toronto, ON, Canada

### What is the MMRC Tissue Bank?

The MMRC Tissue Bank is a central laboratory of tissue samples contributed by myeloma patients. Researchers are now using tissue from the MMRC Tissue Bank for important myeloma research.

### What is a tissue sample?

A tissue sample is a small amount of bone marrow aspirate and blood that is taken during a **regularly scheduled** bone marrow aspirate and blood draw. Myeloma patients often have bone marrow aspirates and blood drawn as part of their care.

### Why is tissue so important for myeloma research?

Tissue plays a very important role in advancing myeloma research. Researchers need tissue for three key reasons: **1.** to validate new therapies **2.** to learn which drugs work best in different patients **3.** to identify new targets for myeloma.

### Why is contributing tissue to the MMRC Tissue Bank important?

Patients who contribute to the MMRC Tissue Bank are helping researchers answer important questions about myeloma. Knowing the answers to these questions will help doctors improve the treatments available today and develop entirely new treatments for myeloma.

### How will patients' tissue be collected?

At the time of patients' regularly scheduled bone marrow aspirate and blood draw, their doctors will collect an additional 2 ½ tablespoons of bone marrow aspirate and 3 tablespoons of blood. There is no significant extra risk or discomfort caused by collecting additional blood or bone marrow aspirate.

### If a patient is already being treated at one of the institutions listed above, can they contribute a tissue sample to the MMRC Tissue Bank?

Yes. Patients should advise their doctor that they want to contribute a tissue sample to the MMRC Tissue Bank. Their doctor will help them through the process.

### If a patient is not being treated at one of the institutions listed above, can they still contribute a tissue sample to the MMRC Tissue Bank?

Yes. Patients can contribute a tissue sample by going to one of the institutions listed above for their next bone marrow aspirate. For information on how to do this, contact Alicia Sable-Hunt, RN, at [sablehunt@themmrc.org](mailto:sablehunt@themmrc.org) or **203-652-0220**, or contact the institution directly.

For more information, visit the MMRC's website at: [www.patienttissue.org](http://www.patienttissue.org).

