The Biospecimen Research Database: An Online Resource for Biospecimen Science

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OVERVIEW

• **Problem:** Variation in biospecimen handling can profoundly change the molecular composition of biospecimens. The molecular changes induced by biospecimen handling must be better understood by researchers in order to reduce the risk of data misinterpretation.

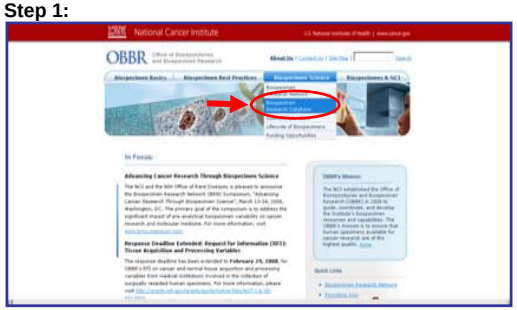
• **Solution**: The Biospecimen Research Database (http://brd.nci.nih.gov)
- A web-based searchable catalogue of scientific publications on biospecimen handling variables.
- The database is indexed by:
  - Molecular analyte
  - Technology platform
  - Specimen type
  - Preanalytical variables

BIOSPECIMEN RESEARCH DATABASE

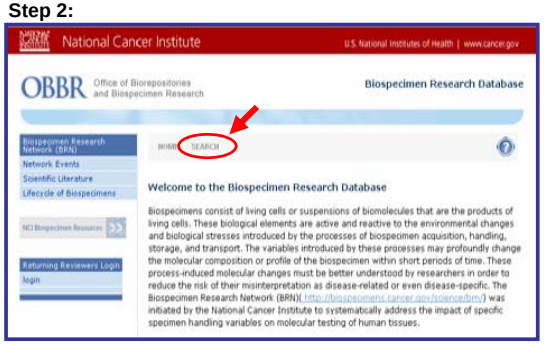
http://brd.nci.nih.gov

NAVIGATING TO THE DATABASE

Step 1:



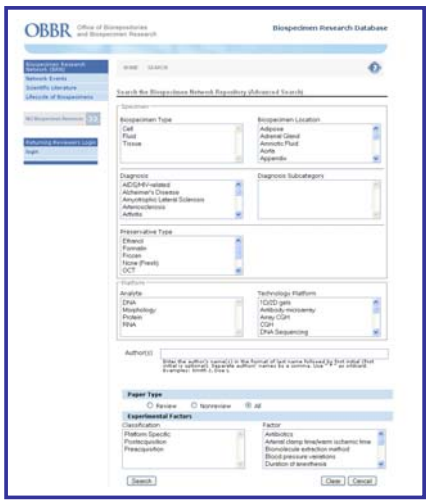
Step 2:

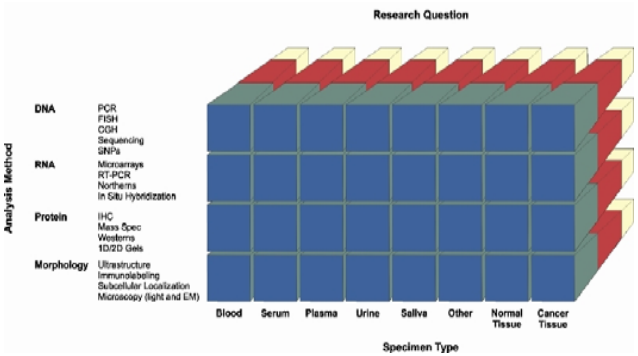


EXAMPLES OF SEARCHES

QUICK SEARCH

ADVANCED SEARCH

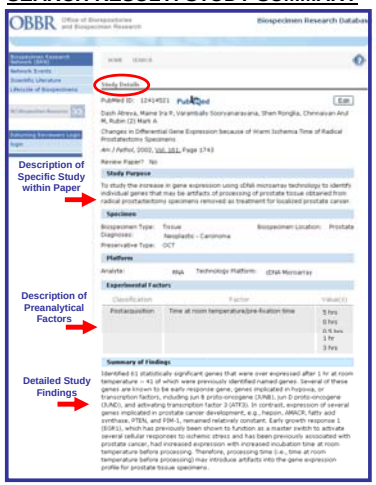




EXAMPLES OF SEARCH RESULTS

SEARCH RESULT: PAPER SUMMARY

SEARCH RESULT: STUDY SUMMARY



SEARCH RESULT: PUBMED LINK

DATABASE CURRENT STATUS

•Allows users to search the biospecimen science-specific published literature based on over 100 controlled vocabulary search terms
• Three different search options that allows users to modulate the level of specificity in their search
•Papers summaries give users an overview of the entire publication
• Study summaries give users a description of a particular experiment within the study.
• Contains 22 fully curated papers

NEXT STEPS FOR THE DATABASE

Expand database with:
- Additional publications that focuses directly on the effects of preanalytical biospecimen variables.
- Unpublished data that focuses directly on the effects of preanalytical biospecimen variables.
- Procedures for clinical laboratory testing relevant to research and/or cancer diagnoses.
- Research protocols that deal with preanalytical biospecimen variability.
- Community collaboration tools (Wiki-based initiatives, discussion forums, etc.)

Perform Meta-analysis of data:
- To inform development and prioritization of Biospecimen Research Network laboratory studies
- To inform development of evidence-based Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

WE WANT YOUR INPUT

- To identify key scientific papers and protocols (published and unpublished)
- To provide feedback regarding the future direction and focus

Please contact OBBR for further information and to volunteer to help us make this database a vital tool for Biospecimen Science

Email: biospecimens@mail.nih.gov
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Web: www.biospecimens.cancer.gov