



INFORMATION SHEET 2

Transfer and storage of blood samples and extracted DNA to the MRC Twenty-07 Tissue Bank – use in future research

As a participant in the West of Scotland Twenty-07 Study you have been asked to provide a blood sample for future research and another sample from which genetic material called DNA will be extracted. You are invited to read the following information and consider agreeing to your leftover blood and DNA samples being transferred to the MRC Twenty-07 Tissue Bank. Please ask any questions you have, and, if you want, discuss it with others. We will do our best to explain and to provide any further information you may ask for now or later. You do not have to make an immediate decision.

What is a Tissue Bank?

A Tissue Bank is a collection of any type of human tissue that has been obtained as part of usual care or, as in this case, remains after all the interviews have been completed. Such tissue is a valuable resource for future medical research for which purpose it can be stored securely and used in accordance with strict rules that protect people's confidentiality and ensure the appropriateness of any future research in which the tissue might be used.

This request concerns your leftover blood and extracted DNA and the Tissue Bank in question is based in Glasgow under the management of the Medical Research Council (MRC).

What will happen to the blood and DNA samples?

The samples will be transferred to the MRC Twenty-07 Tissue Bank in Glasgow where they will be anonymised (i.e. assigned a special code) and stored indefinitely.

MRC Researchers will be able to request samples of the stored blood or DNA for use in future research studies and although it is not possible to say in advance what the nature of such studies might be, because priorities in medical research do change from time to time, an expert MRC scientific review committee will have to first approve each request based on its scientific merit.

Your identity will be protected at all times. Much of the future research will be laboratory-based using tissue that has been anonymised. The results of these analyses will be linked to other information that you have provided in an anonymised form.

Note that in giving consent to the transfer of your leftover samples to the MRC Twenty-07 Tissue Bank, you are consenting to their use in future medical research that may be carried out:

- By researchers at the MRC.
- By other researchers in the NHS and its partner universities in collaboration with the MRC research team.
- Not only by researchers in the UK but in other countries too in collaboration with the MRC research team.

Your rights concerning the stored tissue samples

You should note that the MRC *would not* own your samples but would act as custodian and as such be responsible for their secure storage and for their appropriate use in future research and development.

Note also that you could withdraw your remaining stored blood or DNA samples at any time in the future. The MRC research team would undertake to arrange for the samples to be de-coded, identified and destroyed if you requested this by writing to:

Mrs Catherine Ferrell
Survey Manager
MRC Social and Public Health Sciences Unit
4 Lilybank Gardens
Glasgow
G12 8RZ

No information that is obtained from your blood or DNA sample would ever be available to the general public. We would only make anonymised information available to other researchers, and would ask your permission before sharing any information that could identify you with other researchers.

The Tayside Committee on Medical Research Ethics, which has responsibility for scrutinising proposals for medical research on humans, has examined this proposal and has raised no objections from the point of view of medical ethics.

If you have any questions or wish to receive further information concerning the MRC Twenty-07 Tissue Bank or Tissue Banks in general, please contact:

Catherine Ferrell, Survey Manager at the address above or on 0141 357 3949 or our **FREEPHONE 0800 389 2129** or email: survadmin@sphsu.mrc.ac.uk.

**Thank you for reading this Information Sheet and considering the
storage of your leftover tissue samples**