The CNIO Biobank is a cross-service platform for CNIO researchers, as well as the general scientific community, and is geared towards the promotion of biomedical research in cancer and related diseases. The CNIO Biobank facilitates access to human samples for researchers, ensuring that both the acquisition and use of human samples complies with all the legal and ethical principles that protect donors’ rights.

The CNIO Biobank is a “biobank for biomedical research purposes”, as defined by the Spanish Law 14/2007 on Biomedical Research and the Royal Decree RD 1716/2011. It is therefore defined as a public, non-profit organisation that hosts several collections of human biological samples for biomedical research. The biobank is organised as a technical unit with strict criteria for quality, order and purpose, regardless of whether or not it hosts other collections of biological samples for different purposes. Samples and their associated information are managed in compliance with Spanish legislation and international recommendations; all of this is consistent with quality criteria for sample collection and its subsequent management.

The Biobank has been authorised by the Health Authorities of the Comunidad Autónoma de Madrid – in accordance with the regulation established by RD1716/2011 – and is registered in the National Registry of Biobanks with reference B000848.

**Biobanking**

→ Collection, management, manipulation and custody of human biological samples and associated documentation, in accordance with the legal framework for biobanking.

→ Transfer of samples and clinical biomedical information to research projects, under the approval of the corresponding scientific and ethical committees.

**Management of other collections**

→ Custody service of collections of biological samples and/or information related to biomedical research as promoted by the CNIO or other external research groups.

→ Coordination of sample collections in multicentre studies.

→ Processing of products derived from human samples for research (tissue arrays, DNA, RNA, etc.).

→ High-resolution slide scanning.

→ Researchers who want to deposit their collections at the CNIO-Biobank facilities, or who wish to request samples, must sign an MTA (Material Transfer Agreement) that specifies the terms and conditions under which the Biobank can take the samples and data into custody, or transfer samples to researchers.

**Ethico-legal advice for CNIO researchers regarding the use of human samples in biomedical research**

→ Technical, scientific and ethical advice regarding the collection, storage and management of human samples used for biomedical research, as well as in regards to the creation and management of new collections that are beyond the Biobank’s scope.

**Other services**


During 2017, the CNIO-Biobank has supported 10 tissue requests from scientific research projects, independently of other services, corresponding to 650 cases distributed in 16 transferred tissue microarrays. Additionally, as the Spanish National Biobank Network Coordination Office, we have managed 10 tissue requests for scientific research projects of high complexity, plus 11 other requests for sample availability and/or documentary support. We have also collaborated with the Familial Cancer Unit of the CNIO’s Human Cancer Genetics Programme in the acquisition of 49 clinical cases, as well as in the analysis and diagnosis of 64 new cases.

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**AWARDS AND RECOGNITION**


