

Who are we?

The Coriell Institute for Medical Research is a not-for-profit biomedical research institution with an international reputation based on its accomplishments in genetic research and cell banking.

Its mission is to discover the causes of cancer and other genetic diseases in order to improve the health of humankind through scientific research, banking of cells and tissues from humans and animals, and education. Dr. Lewis Coriell and his colleagues pioneered many of the cell culture techniques that are in standard use around the world and this experience led to the establishment of the Coriell Cell Repositories.

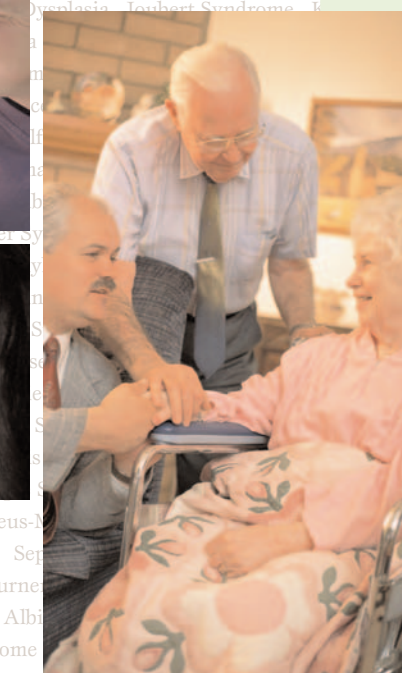
For more information please visit us at: www.coriell.org or call (856)966-5062.



For more information about the Human Genetic Cell Repository at the Coriell Institute for Medical Research please visit us at: www.coriell.org or call (856)966-5062.

Bank for the future of Humankind

The Human Genetic Cell Repository at the Coriell Institute for Medical Research



Every donation
helps bring scientists
closer to a cure . . .

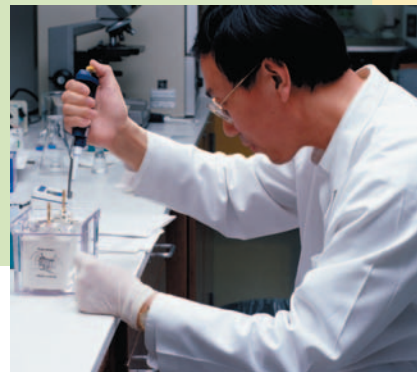


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What is a cell repository?

A cell repository is a collection of well-characterized, high quality cells that can be used for research. Human cells can be obtained from a blood sample or a tissue sample, such as a piece of skin. Cells can be multiplied in the laboratory to create a cell culture, which can be frozen and stored indefinitely.

The Coriell Institute operates a number of cell repositories containing cell cultures from individuals with genetic diseases including cancer. The Coriell Cell Repositories represent the world's largest collection of human cells for use in research.

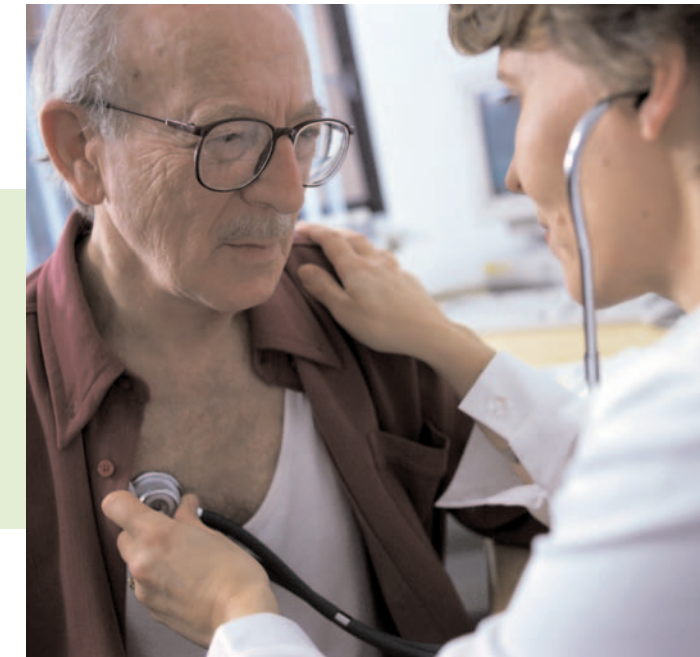


What is the Human Genetic Cell Repository?

In 1972, the National Institutes of Health established the Human Genetic Cell Repository at the Coriell Institute. The purpose of this repository is to collect, maintain, and distribute cells from individuals with genetic diseases including cancer. Scientists can use cells from the Human Genetic Cell Repository to identify genes, to study how cells function, as well as to develop ways to diagnose, treat, and possibly prevent genetic disease.

How can I contribute to research on genetic disorders?

The Human Genetic Cell Repository accepts blood and tissue samples from individuals affected with a genetic disease including cancer, as well as their parents, children and siblings. If you would like to donate a sample of blood or tissue, we will send a collection kit to your physician so the precious sample can be collected and safely shipped back to us.



I want to donate blood to the Human Genetic Cell Repository. What will happen to it?

Once a blood sample arrives at the Coriell Institute, the specimen is given a bar code and unique tracking number. The blood is separated into its different parts. The white blood cells are removed and placed in a container with a growth solution and the cells are allowed to grow.

Once it is time for storage, the cells are placed in glass tubes that contain a solution to protect the cells while frozen. The sealed tubes are placed in canisters in a tank filled with liquid nitrogen at minus 316 degrees Fahrenheit. Cells can be preserved this way indefinitely. During each stage of this process, every specimen is handled in accordance with the most rigorous quality control standards.

Once the cells are in storage, researchers from around the world can order cells from the Coriell Institute's online catalog.



Who do I call if I have questions?

Please contact Tina Sellers, M.S., Genetic Counselor for the Human Genetic Cell Repository at (800)752-3805 or (856)966-5062 (direct line). tsellers@coriell.org