



Cécilia Vargas
Core Facility Manager

The core facility manages the CRCHUM's institutional biobank, which houses several repositories of human biological material for research (biobanks).

It also offers support for the creation of new biobanks and the use of samples from existing repositories.

Our mission is to ensure the traceability and safety of samples, in addition to guiding the community through regulatory requirements (financing approval, consent forms, etc.).

SERVICES

ASSISTANCE SETTING UP AND MONITORING BIOBANKS





- Support getting new biobanks started (financing approval, repository storage information and consent form, required documents for scientific and ethical review)
- Support writing requests for samples via the material request form (FDM/MRF)
- Introduction to the CTRNet Biobank Certification Program
- Support for the use of space in the biobanks

SAMPLE MANAGEMENT

- Receipt and storage of samples and enter data in ATiM
- Return of samples to participating research repositories
- Handling of access requests for samples for use in research projects
- Rental of space (tablets or shelves) for blocks or slides
- Installation of research teams' -20 °C and -80 °C freezers
- Rental of pathology boxes for paraffin blocks (FFPE) or slides
- Transfer of samples in case of daytime emergencies
- Technical support and equipment maintenance

HIGHLIGHTS

With rigorous management and traceability standards for the samples in its repositories, our core facility boasts:

-  **> 90** research projects supported per year
-  **> 20** biobanks managed for **5** participating research themes
-  Nearly **410,000** FFPE blocks stored
-  **17** freezers, **2** of which are emergency freezers, all kept at -80 °C

RESEARCH IN ACTION

Thanks to optimal data management of the biological specimens in our care, our institution's biobank can efficiently distribute the samples it makes accessible to research teams. In partnership with the CHUM's Department of Pathology, we guarantee rapid access to hospital samples, which allows for the acceleration of scientific advancements and the discovery of potential treatments for illnesses.

