

Resources from Biobanks for Research on COVID 19

COVID-19 caused by the corona virus SARS-Cov-2 represents a great challenge for our healthcare systems. The situation and the working conditions are difficult in many places and direct patient care has the highest priority.

The Medical University BBMRI.at partners are doing a great job in patient diagnosis, care and treatment. In addition, there are also research activities towards finding ways to deal with the COVID-19 disease. Biobanks can support researchers and provide key services to them, such as:

- Efficient and high-quality storage of samples in clinical and research settings;
- Samples from healthy individuals, to be used as control (collected 2-3 months before outbreak in each country);
- Provide guidance and standards for targeted identification, collection and conservation of important samples.

What BBMRI.at partners do

Medical University Graz with Institute of Pathology and Biobank Graz

Available resources:

- High-end BSL-3 facility (necessary for the treatment of COVID-19 samples) and biobank.
- Access to patient samples
- Isolation of pathogens from autopsy cases
- Virus culture
- Inhibitor testing
- Support in diagnostic assay development

Contact: kurt.zatloukal@medunigraz.at

see media report about the High Security Lab at Med Uni Graz:

- [ORF "Grazer Speziallabor im Einsatz gegen COVID-19" ... open report>>](#)
- [Med Uni Graz - Graz Speziallabor für hochinfektiöses Material in Graz ... open report](#)

Medical University of Innsbruck with Biobank Innsbruck

Available resources:

- Samples from patients with COVID-19 collected in clinical setting from the Tyrol region (Austria COVID-19 hotspot), linked to clinical data.

Contact: georg.goebel@i-med.ac.at

Medical University of Vienna with MedUniWien Biobank

Available resources:

- Serum samples collected before the SARS-CoV-2 outbreak for validation of serologic (IgG, IgM) tests, as those samples might be definitively free from antibodies against the virus;
- Collections from patients with COVID-19 collected in clinical setting are currently in planning.
- Samples from population-based cohorts collected after the SARS-CoV-2 outbreak (e.g. collected during prophylactic health examination programs, emergency department/primary care visits, etc.) that might help to estimate the actual seroprevalence of the virus in the different areas.

Contact: helmuth.haslacher@meduniwien.ac.at

[See more on other European Biobanks on BBMRI-ERIC >>](#)

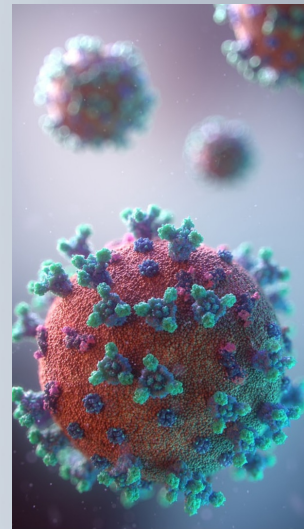


Photo by Fusion Medical Animation on Unsplash