The RWTH cBMB as a Driver for Translational Research Projects

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About the RWTH cBMB

The main function of the RWTH cBMB is the cryo-asservation of biomaterial samples and the gathering and distribution of sample-associated medical data in compliance with the conditions set up by data privacy laws.

The RWTH cBMB is aiming at the promotion of translational research and personalized medicine at the University Hospital Aachen and other medical facilities.

As a part of the institute of pathology at the University Hospital Aachen, the RWTH cBMB is located ideally at the intersection of clinical routine and scientific research.

Our Service

Through its ambitions to support translational research and personalized medicine, the RWTH cBMB enables researchers to access pathological-examined samples. Beside to the access to the samples, researchers are provided with access to the relevant medical data associated to the samples.

The medical data is gathered in consideration of privacy protection: A written patient consent needs to be submitted prior to the examination and storage of the samples. Additionally, the personally identifying properties of the data are pseudonymized.

To provide an easier possibility for research projects to enter project-specific sample or treatment case related medical data, specialized data entry interfaces can be provided by the RWTH cBMB.

Resources & Know-How

Resources
- sample storage in nitrogen reservoirs or -80°C freezers
- a centrally managed infrastructure in the UK Aachen

Know-How
- professionally skilled staff (computer sciences, biology, pathology)
- trained laboratory staff

Benefits

By April 2013 approximately 16.500 samples and their associated data were registered, processed and stored. It is advisable for scientists to store their samples at the RWTH cBMB and in result benefit from the already existing know-how and structures (e.g. ethics committee and privacy policy) or the processes still in development like “pre-analytics” or “data warehouse”.

Prospectively, the requirements for project based on biomaterials will increase and therefore it is necessary to use reliable samples in order to enhance the reliability of own projects.

Research groups who are interested in working with reliable samples and data are also asked also collaborate with the RWTH cBMB. This collaboration may range from consultancy related to the practicability of the project and suitability of our samples to the examination of quality and content of own samples.

Website

The RWTH cBMB has set up a website providing information for researchers, physicians as well as patients at http://rwth-cbmb.de