

Jessa Biobank

The **Jessa Biobank** is located at the Jessa Hospital (Hasselt). It supports the scientific research conducted at the Jessa Hospital and its network partners, but is also open to support researchers from other institutions. The goal of the Jessa Biobank is to register, collect, process, analyze (for quality assurance) and store high-quality human body material and related information in order to make it available for a broad range of clinically relevant studies, as well as for the development of new diagnostic tests or procedures.

The purpose of the Jessa Biobank is to improve the quality of patient care and accelerate the impact of research on such care. To this end, the Jessa Biobank will implement the highest standards regarding biobanking in order to provide excellent clinical, medical, demographical and analytical data to its researchers.

To achieve this goal, the Jessa Biobank has following objectives:

1. Function as a registration, collection, processing and storage facility for human body material acquired at the Jessa Hospital or its network partners.
2. Stimulate translational research by providing relevant human body material and/or data.
3. Act as contact point and center of expertise on biobanking in all its facets for internal and external stakeholders.
4. Offer services to third parties.
5. Fit with (inter)national laws and guidelines concerning biobanking.
6. Inform stakeholders.

UCLouvain Biolibrary

Over many years, university research departments have collected human biological material (HBM) for research purposes. Following the Belgian Royal Decree of 9.01.2018 related to biobanks, the **UCLouvain Biolibrary** has been created in 2019 to meet the goals below:

- centralize all the historical and prospective HBM collections that belong to the university research departments
- ensure that the entire process from the collection phase through processing and using of the samples in research projects complies with ethical requirements and the applicable Belgian laws and regulations
- share HBM, offer scientific expertise and foster research collaborations

A major characteristic of the Biolibrary is that the structure participates to the collection but does not store the collected HBM. The biological material is stored in the research department that will use it. After registration of the sample in the biobank database, the Biolibrary takes care of all the necessary subsequent steps in order to make the HBM available for internal research projects and/or collaborations outside the university. The UCLouvain Biolibrary is composed of a wide range of collection types related to different research fields, these collections could be a good starting point for win-win collaborations.

Oncological biobank of the GZA Hospitals

The aim of the **biobank of the department of Oncological Research of the GZA Hospitals** is to collect and store samples and data of patients with cancer that will be used for cancer research only. The biobank will support translational cancer research by collecting and storing high-quality samples and follow-up data of patients with cancer.

The department of Oncological Research of the GZA Hospitals hosts a translational cancer research unit. The primary aim of the biobank is to support the cancer research in this unit. The focus lies on breast cancer. The biobank of the department of Oncological Research of the GZA Hospitals is interested in interaction with other biobanks and BBMRI.be concerning standard operating procedures, GDPR-compliance and ISO 20387 accreditation. They are currently setting up a quality system with the intention to apply for external audit to obtain the accreditation according this norm.