



National MS Society Information Sourcebook

www.nationalmssociety.org/sourcebook

Tissue Donors

Tissue donor programs that provide brain tissue for researchers studying the pathology of multiple sclerosis—its nature, cause, and effects on the brain—are extremely important. The National MS Society supports two MS tissue banks, facilities that provide resources for researchers studying multiple sclerosis. A tissue bank is very close to what it sounds like: an area in a laboratory or medical center where tissue specimens are “deposited” and stored for later “withdrawal” and use. The MS tissue banks store brain and spinal cord tissues, spinal fluid, and other specimens from persons who had MS during their lifetimes. These samples are frozen or otherwise preserved very soon after the death of the donor. The banked tissues are carefully catalogued with information about the each donor’s medical history.

For those considering donating tissue, ***planning ahead is essential***. Brain tissue must be prepared within hours after death, to be of use in research. Individuals interested in the possibility of tissue donation can contact these banks as follows:

Rocky Mountain MS Center

Research Division
701 East Hampden Avenue, Suite 420
Englewood, CO 80110
Phone: (303) 788-4030
Web site: www.mscenter.org

MS Human Neurospecimen Bank

Veteran Administration Medical Center
11301 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90073
Phone: (310) 268-3536
(310) 478-3711 after hours and weekends (Please ask for the Brain Bank)
Web site: www.loni.ucla.edu/uclabrainbank

The decision to contribute to this special type of research is most thoughtful, and is truly appreciated by all who are involved in the effort to develop methods to treat and to prevent MS.

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See also...

Sourcebook

- Research

Society Web Resources

- MS Researchers Need You
www.nationalmssociety.org/Need
- Research Fact Sheet
www.nationalmssociety.org/ResearchFactSheet
- Research FAQs
www.nationalmssociety.org/ResearchFAQ

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is proud to be a source of information about multiple sclerosis. Our comments are based on professional advice, published experience, and expert opinion, but do not represent individual therapeutic recommendations or prescription. For specific information and advice, consult your personal physician.

To contact your chapter, call **1-800-FIGHT-MS** (1-800-344-4867) or visit the National MS Society web site: www.nationalmssociety.org.

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Last updated August 2007