UC BRAID
Biobanking
Workgroup

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Vision

• Realize the promise of UC system-wide health sciences by creating a virtual UC biobank through coordination of existing resources to better compete for funding, accelerate biomedical discoveries, and improve the health of Californians

• Provide education, guidance, and support for existing biorepositories and provide them with practical tools to improve the quality of their biorepository and promote access to biosamples
Why a UC Biobanking Network?

• Collaborative/team science, genomics, longitudinal
• Mayo, OHSU-KP, UMich, BWH/MGH, papers/grants rejects
• Who has samples???, complexity of UC sharing, varied practices/quality
• 12M diverse lives, UCOP, BRAID, EngageUC
  – Realization of BRAID efforts
• If UC chooses, we can create a larger, more diverse, more effective network than currently exists in the US
Do you see...
..what we see?
What needs to be done?

• Create the pathway
• Draw in beneficiaries
• Reap the benefits

Conduct a 1 year pilot project
Short term goals – Creating the pathway

• Create vision for BRAID Biobank Network (BBN), including an inclusive governance model for legacy/future collections. Completed

• Agree on elements of high quality biobanks; create SOPs for these. Completed and in progress

• Identify groups interested in participating in a pilot project for sharing. In progress (potential groups include Athena, Cancer Center Biobanks, pancreas cancer biobanks)

• Explore natural collaborations with other BRAID (UCRex, IRBs, MTAs etc) and UC (EngageUC) groups. Developing and in progress
Proposed 1 year pilot

• Test concept - “Virtual biobank”
  – Understand UC researcher needs for biosamples
  – develop biobank-specific MTA/IRB solutions w/BRAID
  – identify snags

• Leveraging existing biobanks
  – Possibles include: Athena, Cancer Center biobanks

• Needs:
  – 1 staff FTE at each campus
  – Assessment pgm (research needs/implementation)

• Brandi Schmitt (UCOP) to ID banks/qualities
  – IRB cooperation
Intermediate goals -
Drawing in beneficiaries

• Expand pilot project
• Further develop BRAID collaborations
• Begin developing electronic search/request capabilities for samples across campuses
• Determine baseline metadata/clinical data required to increase sample value
• Create website with “Best Practices” documents and vision for use/view by other UC biobanks
• Educational program for biobanks
• Explore options for more community involvement
Long term goals – Reaping the benefits

• Active BBN; Per UCOP/campus leaders’ vision, could include centralized biorepositories
• BBN member biorepositories are national leaders in high quality and innovation, including grant funding
• Robust electronic sample search/request capabilities
• Fully integrated with appropriate other BRAID efforts
• Use of harmonized consent processes/forms across all campuses (consent process/forms developed by other groups, such as EngageUC, BRAID IRB)
• Community Advisory Process in place
As part of the Strategic Research Initiative, the U-M Medical School has started work on what will ultimately become a world-class, accredited biorepository. Providing a home for high-quality biosamples linked to highly annotated clinical and laboratory data, the biorepository will serve University of Michigan investigators and beyond…. it is anticipated that the transition of the four pilots to the centralized biorepository will be complete in mid 2014.

We are pleased that many Mayo Clinic researchers have already made use of samples and data for studies at Mayo Clinic. Overall, we now have 66 approved projects requesting approximately 71,907 samples or data from Biobank participants.

Specimen Acquisition Opportunity

NW Biobank at Kaiser Permanente

This is an opportunity for investigators to have their own research priorities guide a specimen-collection effort at Kaiser Permanente Northwest. This is the second specimen-collection opportunity offered by OCTRI and the Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Research.