



New tumor bank enables world-class cancer research

The Legacy Core Oncology Laboratory celebrated an exciting milestone in April when the first tumor specimen was collected at Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital and preserved in the new tumor bank. The goal of the tumor bank project is to collect and preserve tumor samples required by researchers studying relationships between tumor characteristics, treatment alternatives and patient outcomes. The Core Oncology Laboratory and its tumor bank represent key elements of Legacy's broader Cancer Research Initiative, a principal goal of which is to ensure delivery of the most innovative and advanced cancer care possible.

"Having tumor specimens stored so the widest possible range of research can be performed will help researchers learn more about particular cancers. As we learn more about particular cancers we can better individualize therapies for people with cancer," says Katherine T. Morris, M.D., surgical oncologist and medical director of cancer research at Legacy Health System.

The tumor bank will collect clinical data regarding the patients, their treatment and their outcomes. Quarterly survival data updates from the Cancer Registry will be incorporated into the outcomes database. As the collection of specimens grows, Legacy researchers associated with the Core Oncology Laboratory will begin conducting experiments yielding information that will help clinicians better target treatments based on individual tumor characteristics.

All clinical data is tracked using code numbers to protect patient confidentiality. Patients are asked for their informed consent to participate in the tumor bank to ensure all research is conducted with the highest standard of ethics. This project is overseen by the Legacy Institutional Review Board.



The new Legacy Tumor Bank allows for the collection and preservation of tumor samples to help improve cancer research and care now and in the future. In the picture above, research assistant Andrew Casey processes the first specimen.

For more information, contact Dr. Morris at Legacy Research, 503-413-5409 and morris@legacyhealthresearch.org, or at Oregon Surgical Consultants, 503-226-4325. Research assistant Andrew Casey is responsible for day-to-day operation of the tumor bank and can be reached at Legacy, 503-413-1651 or pager 503-938-7263. The Cancer Research Initiative and tumor bank are partially supported through a grant from the Good Samaritan Foundation.