

# BIOREPOSITORIES

One of our greatest resources for discovery is the Benaroya Research Institute (BRI) Immune Mediated Diseases Biorepository. A collection of biological samples and health information of volunteers with and without disease, scientists use it to learn what defines a healthy immune system and how to predict, prevent, reverse and ultimately cure diseases of the immune system.

## SCIENTISTS CAN

- Identify distinct cells and characteristics associated with disease progression
- Understand how environmental and genetic factors impact the immune system
- Advance our understanding of how and why diseases develop
- Identify/develop targets for new therapies

## BRI BIOREPOSITORIES



ALLERGIES & ASTHMA



CANCER



RHEUMATIC DISEASES



INFLAMMATORY  
BOWEL DISEASES



HEALTHY IMMUNE  
SYSTEMS



CELIAC DISEASE



INFECTIOUS DISEASES



DOWN SYNDROME



NEUROLOGIC DISEASES



TYPE 1 DIABETES

## HOW DOES A BIOREPOSITORY WORK

1

Biospecimens are collected from donors living with and without diseases.

2

Samples and health information are coded with a number for confidentiality.

3

Samples are kept whole or separated into their building blocks — fluids, cells, molecules.

4

Samples can be readily available to researchers with approved scientific questions.

5

A biorepository helps scientists work more quickly to make discoveries that can improve patient care.

## DISCOVERIES INCLUDE

- Identification of a cell that drives all allergies
- Identification of a cell that drives rheumatoid arthritis
- Gene variations that increase the risk of autoimmune diseases
- Understanding which immune cells contribute to type 1 diabetes, and how treatment can target these cells
- Understanding why T cells in multiple sclerosis may cause more serious disease

## RESEARCHERS ARE

- Leading type 1 diabetes studies to anticipate whose disease will progress rapidly and how to delay it
- Finding biomarkers that predict who will develop rheumatoid arthritis and how to prevent it
- Diagnosing allergies and developing ways to treat them
- Moving from lab discoveries to new treatments for patients with celiac disease

**11,000**

Samples used by scientists last year

**16,000**

People participating as volunteer donors

# JOIN US

## GET MORE INFORMATION

Visit [BenaroyaResearch.org](http://BenaroyaResearch.org) and sign up to receive research updates.

Follow stories on the Autoimmune Life blog at [BenaroyaResearch.org/blog](http://BenaroyaResearch.org/blog)

## FOLLOW US



## PARTNER IN DISCOVERY

We need volunteer donors with and without disease.

BRI researchers work with hundreds of physicians and patients through biorepositories and clinical trials—all focused on improving human health.

Register to donate to a biorepository at [BenaroyaResearch.org/bio](http://BenaroyaResearch.org/bio)

## DONATE

To support lifesaving medical research visit: [BenaroyaResearch.org/donate-now](http://BenaroyaResearch.org/donate-now)

