



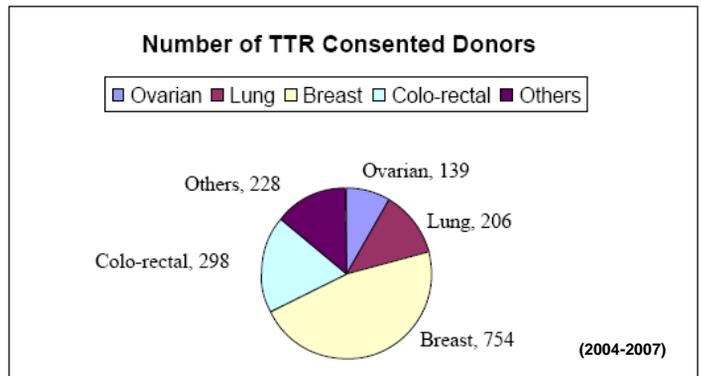
TTR UPDATE

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Welcome to the 2008 TTR update. The Tumour Tissue Repository (TTR) has grown into a multifaceted program. The TTR now leads and contributes to national, provincial and regional biobanking initiatives. This TTR program is founded on the success and experience of core operations ongoing in Victoria, which are the result of the collaboration and ongoing support from the Greater Victoria Surgeons, VIHA anatomical pathologists, staff and clinical administrative groups as we continue to build a unique and invaluable resource to support cancer research.

One change that has occurred over the past year is that it is now possible to consent donors post-operatively. While we continue to look for referrals and consent pre-operatively, this change provides an extra opportunity for donor's to participate in the TTR that have undergone emergency surgery or otherwise were not able to participate pre-operatively.



A second change that has occurred this past year is that the TTR is interested in accruing samples from donors with pre-invasive disease (*in situ*) in breast and other sites.

Local and Regional TTR Initiatives

The TTR is assisting several groups in BC with biobanking needs and/or expertise.

- The Breast and Head & Neck tumour groups to create TTR-affiliated programs in Vancouver



- The BCCA Vancouver Island Centre's PREDICT pilot project, a population-based biobank aiming to identify host factors that affect response to treatment

- The Prostate Cancer Outcome Unit pilot study with its biobanking objectives

- Northern Health and UNBC in the creation of a TTR- affiliated program in Prince George

Provincial TTR Initiatives

The TTR has taken a leadership role in developing a new initiative in BC, the BC BioLibrary. The objective is to create a new accrual platform for all biobanks and to address inefficiencies, lack of capacity, and varying standards that exist with biobanking within BC.

The BC BioLibrary's key features & goals

- Is modeled after a public library and is intended to help all interested BC researchers
- It is a facilitator, not a biobank
- It enhances quality and accessibility of biospecimens
- It helps Pathologists streamline and improve biobanking activities
- It supports the stability and longevity of biobanking in BC by gaining and sustaining the public's trust
- The TTR and the BC Biolibrary are collaborating with a team at the University of British Columbia to engage the BC public in the issues around biobanking through the process of 'Deliberative Democracy'.

To learn more about these initiatives please visit: www.bcbiolibrary.ca and www.biobanktalk.ca

National TTR Initiatives

The TTR is a founding member of the new Canadian Tumour Repository Network (CTRNet). The objective of CTRNet is to promote biobanking standards and to improve access to tumour tissue and data resources by linking researchers with provincial tumour banks.

To learn more about CTRNet please visit: www.ctrnet.ca

TTR Contact Info:

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Extension 5713 or ask for the TTR Nurse



The TTR Team (From left to right) Nathan Wang (Data Management); Dr. Peter Watson (Director, TTR); Simon Dee (Data Management); Kristy Dillon (DRC Project Assistant); Aleata Ryhorchuk (Biodata Coordinator); Rebecca Barnes (Senior TTR Coordinator); Jodi LeBlanc (Project Nurse); *Monica Sager (Project Nurse, absent)*; *Angela Lum (Admin Assistant, absent)*

Thank you to our funding bodies:

