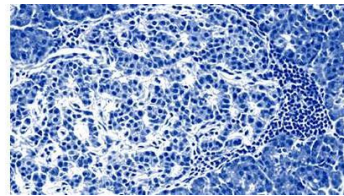




# nPOD

Network for Pancreatic Organ Donors with Diabetes



## OPPC receives high marks for cell viability and RNA Integrity

The nPOD Organ Processing and Pathology Core (OPPC) core, located at the University of Florida, receives nPOD donor tissue directly from OPOs, processes the tissue, ships samples directly to investigators and stores case samples and data. The OPPC recently participated in a Proficiency Testing Program endorsed by ISBER, the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories, and received high scores.



**Irina Kusmartseva, PhD**  
nPOD OPPC Director

Biospecimen Proficiency Testing (PT), is seen as a powerful tool to help laboratories/repositories improve their quality management systems.

Thirty labs from around the world participated in RNA Integrity Testing, and 17 labs from around the world participated in a Cell Viability Test. All results provided by the OPPC were analyzed with the same statistical method and individual results were assessed against an assigned value. The OPPC ranked among the top performing labs in both tests, achieving a “Very Satisfactory” ranking.

The scoring system is based on distance from the Assigned Value:

Distance from assigned value (z-score)	Consensus score	Performance
< 1 standard deviation	0	Very Satisfactory
< 2 standard deviations	1	Satisfactory
> 2 standard deviations	2	Questionable
> 3 standard deviations	3	Requiring Action

Congratulations OPPC on your hard work to standardize lab practices to better serve the diabetes research community.

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Sponsored by [www.jdrfnpod.org](http://www.jdrfnpod.org). The Network for Pancreatic Organ Donors with Diabetes (nPOD) is a collaborative type 1 diabetes research project funded by JDRF (the non-profit foundation formerly known as Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation). We support scientific investigators by providing, without cost, rare and difficult to obtain tissues beneficial to their research. nPOD currently supports over [120 type 1 diabetes-related scientific studies](#) at institutions around the world. Our hope is that nPOD will prove a useful resource to the community of researchers dedicated to finding a cure for type 1 diabetes.