



ORGAN RECOVERY PROTOCOL FOR AUTOPSY CASES

The purpose of this protocol is to outline procedures for recovering pancreata and associated tissue for nPOD research on an autopsy donor. This will be a guide to medical examiners and their support staff who agree to recover organs and tissues for nPOD during an autopsy as well as nPOD on call personnel. This applies to:

- The various medical examiner and support staff who recover the organs and tissues for the nPOD project.
- nPOD on call personnel who will be involved in orchestrating the recoveries. Admin on call personnel should contact the local Organ Procurement Organization to request assistance as soon as possible once consent has been obtained for research.

Equipment and Materials:

Standard instrumentation used in an autopsy as well as material to package the organs and tissues on wet ice for shipment to the University of Florida.

Procedure:

The following organs and tissues are to be recovered:

- a) Pancreas and pancreatic lymph nodes.
- b) Spleen (whole organ or at least a 50 gram portion).
- c) Thymus for donors 18 or younger (if possible).
- d) Blood (serum) as much as possible. Specific details are included below in #6-7.

Detailed Recovery Instructions:

- 1) Please recover the entire pancreas (or as much of the organ as possible after samples are taken for the autopsy) with as much peripancreatic fat as possible (this will contain pancreatic lymph nodes).
- 2) The pancreas and peripancreatic fat will be excised with attached duodenum and spleen.
- 3) A 50 gram portion of the spleen or the whole organ.
- 4) Recover whole thymus for all donors 18 or younger, packaged separately in a conical tube with chilled UW, HTK or sterile saline (if possible).
- 5) All specimens shall be placed in a container with chilled UW, HTK, sterile saline or LR and maintained at 4C.
- 6) Blood (serum) as much as possible. Will be discussed with nPOD on call personnel.
- 7) **All blood containers must be placed in insulated box within the packaging, to avoid freezing.**
- 8) Please complete checklist on the last page to ensure all items are recovered.

Packaging the pancreas for transport:

1. The nPOD on call coordinator will instruct on how to package the organs and tissues for shipping, call the nPOD call center at 1-866-731-6585. Be sure to tell them for nPOD research. An attempt will be made to gain assistance from the local Organ Procurement Organization or Tissue Bank.
2. Please include a copy of the consent and donor chart, either redacted or un-redacted. We can redact at nPOD per our IRB policy.

Organ Recovery Checklist

Please sign and return this form to nPOD.

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that the protocol requirements were followed and met. In the event the recovery outcome deviates from the nPOD Organ Recovery Protocol, please note it on this sheet to explain the deviation.

Please check that each item is placed within the research organ package:

- 1) **Pancreas:** and fat containing pancreatic lymph nodes:
 - a. Entire pancreas (or as much of the organ as possible after samples are taken for the autopsy)
- 2) **Spleen:** (whole organ or at least a 50 gram portion).
- 3) **Blood:** (serum) as much as possible.
- 4) **Thymus:** for donors 18 or younger (optional).
- 5) Lots of **wet ice** and triple bag packaging.

Consent, donor chart and this form may be sent via email or placed in the box based on your policy.
Confirmed by:

First, Last Name

Date

Please complete, sign, and include this form in the organ box

Notify nPOD's On-Call Coordinator when the organs and tissues are ready for pickup

1-866-731-6585 or 352-273-8277