

nPOD Ethical Standards

nPOD is committed to conducting diabetes research in strict adherence to all applicable ethical standards, legal frameworks, and regulatory requirements. The following points summarize our practices regarding tissue and data collection and distribution:

# Ethical Standards in Organ Recovery

Organ recovery is performed in full compliance with the National Organ Transplant Act, a federal law passed by Congress to ensure ethical organ recovery. You can review the specifics of the legislation here: [National](https://www.congress.gov/bill/98th-congress/senate-bill/2048) [Organ Transplant Act.](https://www.congress.gov/bill/98th-congress/senate-bill/2048)

# Tissue Retrieval in Accordance with IRB Approval

All tissue retrievals are conducted in accordance with local Institutional Review Board (IRB) approvals and applicable laws, ensuring that both ethical principles and legal standards are upheld.

# Compliance with U.S. and Local Laws for Sample Acquisition

All processes involved in sample acquisition and research are performed in compliance with relevant U.S. federal and local regulations, including:

* + **Uniform Anatomical Gift Act (UAGA)**: A model act guiding the transfer of organs from deceased individuals.
	+ **Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects (Common Rule)**: Governs research involving human subjects, ensuring their protection.
	+ **Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN)**: Requires Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs) to follow legal and regulatory protocols, including having written procedures to inform individuals about organ donation options.

# International Collaboration and Tissue Distribution

The nPOD program operates under approval from the University of Florida Institutional Review Board, which authorizes the distribution of tissues and de-identified data to researchers globally, in compliance with ethical and legal standards.

# Informed Consent

All organ and tissue recoveries are performed only after informed consent has been obtained from the donors or their legal representatives, ensuring that the donors’ rights and wishes are fully respected.