

FFPE TISSUE BLOCKS

REMARKABLE VALUE, IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE

iSpecimen's® healthcare partner network provides you with access to high quality FFPE tissue blocks from hundreds of archives in our vast partner network, reflecting a wide range of diseases that researchers are studying. Hospitals and clinics originally collect these tissue samples in surgery or for diagnostic testing, and they are immediately preserved in wax by pathologists. Archived FFPE blocks can be valuable in oncology, hematology and immunology – notably for replication, validation and immunohistochemistry (IHC) testing – whether in academic research, drug discovery or diagnostic development.

ADVANTAGES OF USING ARCHIVED TISSUE BLOCKS

Archived FFPE blocks can alleviate significant procurement challenges in that they are typically:

- **More affordable:** Archived FFPE blocks cost up to 70% less than prospectively collected samples.
- **More plentiful:** These samples have been collected for years, which is especially important for researchers needing rare disease samples in larger quantities.
- **Quicker to arrive:** These samples are already fixed and ready to ship.
- **Scientifically viable and reliable:** Tissue is fixed immediately upon removal and, thus, well-preserved despite the number of years in storage.
- **In some cases, uniquely valuable:** FFPE blocks in general are more likely than newer specimens to reflect later stages of certain diseases that in the past decade have been diagnosed and treated earlier.

UNDERSTANDING ACCEPTABLE LEVELS OF PATIENT CONSENT

Many organizations restrict themselves to using only tissue collected or stored for research use, with affirmative patient consent. However, for many types of research, including replication, validation, and IHC testing, limiting usable biospecimens to fresh and banked consented specimens may be unnecessarily difficult and expensive. Archived blocks may be a superior fit for certain types of research.



iSpecimen is sensitive to the fact that many of our specimen providers are vigilant about informing and asking their patients for use of de-identified clinical discards even though the law does not require it. Thus, we always offer consent programs for our partner sites who choose to meet them.

A MARKETPLACE FOR HUMAN BIOSPECIMENS

The iSpecimen Marketplace™ is your one-stop source for millions of tissue samples, along with biofluids and viable cells. Advanced search and filtering capabilities allow you to find the exact specimens you need.

QUICKENING ACCESS: SOURCING OUTSIDE OF THE US

In the US, clinics must store FFPE blocks for 10 years after collection before making them available for research. Researchers can also source archived FFPE blocks from outside of the US, where mandatory storage periods can be considerably shorter than in the U.S. – typically two or three years after collection. These samples are relatively simple to ship, so out-of-country logistics pose no barriers to procurement. Find thousands of these “shorter-term” archived blocks through iSpecimen's partner network.

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