



Do Specimens From Blood Banks or Cryogenics Banks Need IRB Review?

Generally speaking, if a researcher is obtaining specimens of blood or sperm from a blood bank or cryogenics bank, these samples are not considered human subject research.

Research involving human specimens, cells, or data that would **not** be considered human subject research do not require IRB review.

Examples of Activities That Do Not Require IRB Review

- Research that proposes only the use of cadaver specimens;
- Research that proposes the use of collected specimens from a donor whose identity cannot be readily ascertained by the investigator.

Examples of Activities That Do Require IRB Review

- Using, studying or analyzing for research purposes identifiable private information or identifiable specimens that have been provided to investigators from any source;
- Using, studying, or analyzing for research purposes identifiable private information or identifiable specimens that were already in the possession of the investigator.

For more guidance on research involving coded private information or biological specimens click [here](#).

