

Medical Examiner Potential Research Request Update

Last Updated: July 2024

Thank you for all you do to support tissue donations that change lives through the gift of tissue donation. More than ever before, donation for scientific research plays a critical role in helping advance patient care by improving tissue recovery and preparation, and by supporting groundbreaking discoveries. We will be focusing our efforts on requesting ME clearance of specific tissues/regions based upon donor eligibility instead of a blanket "research authorization". The summary below describes the current research projects that you can help support.

New and Upcoming Projects: Projects vary by geographical area.

- Brain: Research to develop and study a molecular map of the brain for each gender to evaluate effective treatments for women. Donors must be between the ages of 18-45.
- Brain: Research to better understand and develop treatment chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE). Donors must be current or former military, between the ages of 18-60.

High Importance Projects:

- Brain: Research to better understand and evaluate treatment for mental illness. Donors must have diagnosis of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and/or Depression, between the ages of 18-75.
- Brain: Research to better understand and develop treatment for Traumatic Brain Injury. Donors must be current or former military, between the ages of 18-60.
- Dorsal Root Ganglion (DRGs): Research to better understand and evaluate treatments for chronic pain. Donors must be between the ages of 18-60.
- Multiple tissue samples (diaphragm, heart, gastrocnemius, and blood sample): Research and development of therapeutic modalities for treatment of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy and other related myopathies. Donors must be between the ages of 12-45.
- Heart: Training and education of proper techniques for heart valve replacement surgery. Donors must be between the ages of 0-100.