



Accessing autopsy tissue from the DIAN Neuropathology Core (NPC)

In return for the use of DIAN autopsy tissue, we ask the following of investigators: acknowledgment of the DIAN grant number (U01 AG032438) in publications and presentations, productivity reports on publications or funding that were derived from the project, and no third-party sharing without notification. We do not charge for sharing materials/data unless the request requires effort beyond what can be subsumed under normal budgeted effort. If the request justifies a charge, the cost is kept to a minimum and based on actual expenses (effort and materials).

DISCLAIMER: No screening for infectious agents has been performed on tissues or bodily fluids provided by the Dominantly Inherited Alzheimer Network (DIAN). The investigator must take appropriate precautions.

DIAN-NPC Block Sampling

Formalin-fixed, paraffin wax-embedded tissue blocks from the following 16 areas from the left cerebrum will be collected from DIAN-NPC autopsy participants:

1. Middle frontal gyrus
2. Superior and middle temporal gyri
3. Inferior parietal lobe (angular gyrus)
4. Occipital lobe to include the calcarine sulcus and peristriate cortex
5. Anterior cingulate gyrus at the level of the genu of the corpus callosum
6. Posterior cingulate gyrus and precuneus at the level of the splenium
7. Amygdala and entorhinal cortex
8. Hippocampus and parahippocampal gyrus at the level of the lateral geniculate nucleus
9. Striatum (caudate nucleus and putamen) at the level of the anterior commissure
10. Lentiform nuclei (globus pallidus and putamen)
11. Thalamus and subthalamic nucleus
12. Midbrain
13. Pons
14. Medulla oblongata
15. Cerebellum with dentate nucleus
16. Spinal cord

Please note, in unusual circumstances where it is not possible to forward an entire tissue block to the DIAN-NPC (e.g., if the block is used for stereology), 10 paraffin wax sections (4-8 μm) from each block will be provided to DIAN-NPC for systematic neuropathology and diagnosis. In these rare instances tissue from these regions may not be available to outside investigators.

Frozen Tissue

Snap frozen tissue will be dissected, frozen, sent to DIAN-NPC, and stored at -80°C . The following coronal hemibrain slices (0.5 to 1cm thick), where possible, will be available:

1. Frontal lobe to include striatum;
2. Frontal and temporal lobe at the level of the mamillary body;
3. Temporal and parietal lobes at the level of the lateral geniculate nucleus;
4. Occipital lobe to include the calcarine sulcus.

Procedures for Accessing Autopsy Tissue from the DIAN Neuropathology Core

The proposed Tissue and Biospecimen Subcommittee will oversee the allocation and distribution of biological specimens generated by DIAN. This Subcommittee will establish procedures by which investigators can request access to the biospecimens and, with the PI and NIA staff, nominate members to form the Resource Allocation Review Committee (RARC). The RARC will be composed of individuals who are not directly involved in DIAN and have no relevant conflicts of interest. It will review applications for use of the DIAN biospecimens and provide their recommendation for approval or disapproval to the Steering Committee.