



# Newsletter

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**We currently collect:**

- Blood
- Bone Marrow
- Tissue
- Saliva
- Stem Cells
- Urine
- Placenta
- Cerebrospinal Fluid
- Cord Blood

The BC Children's Hospital BioBank collects biological samples and makes them available for health researchers, who are interested in improving medical treatments for children and families.



## BRavE

Better Responses through Avatomics Evidence (BRAVE) is a study established by the Michael Cuccione Childhood Cancer Research Program to better understand pediatric cancers, specifically B- and T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia and acute

myeloid leukemia. The study screens for mutations and specific characteristics in cancer tumor cell samples provided by the BCCH BioBank, which has been working with Dr. Philipp Lange. To date, the BCCH BioBank has provided a number of samples

including blood products, stem cell products, and tonsil tissue samples. These samples allow for researchers from BRAVE to study the underlying biology of cancer cells, and test a wider range of cancer therapies.

## PARTNERS



## New Preemie BioBank:

### Continuing our Involvement in the BC Women's Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

With recent funding from the Women's Health Research Institute Catalyst Grant, the BCCHB will be working with Neonatologist Dr. Pascal Lavoie to start the first Preemie BioBank in Canada. While we were already collecting umbilical cord blood from high-risk premature deliveries, the Preemie BioBank is aiming to:

- A) Collect more samples from preterm deliveries and babies such as placenta
- B) Solicit parent opinions through surveys and focus groups about the process of obtaining consent, and the overall purpose and value of the Preemie BioBank at BCWH.

Patient's suggestions or comments will help us improve the operation of the BCCHB to make the overall experience better for patients and their families and to promote a research culture here at BC Women's Hospital.



## PROFYLE: Tumour Profiling

Currently, the BCCH BioBank has been working with pediatric oncologist, Dr. Rebecca Deyell, on the Terry Fox PRecision Oncology For Young PeopLE (PROFYLE) program to help create new therapeutic advances for childhood cancers. The BCCH BioBank will serve as the main biobanking site for all of Western Canada, and will store tumor tissue, bone marrow, blood, cerebrospinal fluid, urine, and saliva samples on behalf of the PROFYLE program. These samples will be used to prepare and sequence DNA to help profile tumors from hundreds of childhood cancer patients, and look for targets for cancer therapy. By tumor profiling, PROFYLE aims to improve patient care across Canada. With the overall aim of providing personalized therapeutic options, results from PROFYLE will help guide clinicians to select the most effective and least toxic personalized therapy for each individual patient.



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