

Dear Procurement Professional,

As you may know, the National Disease Research Interchange is a non-profit organization funded by the National Institutes of Health that is dedicated to the recovery and distribution of human tissues for biomedical research. ***We have now partnered with NIH on a unique program to collect infectious tissue from HIV/AIDS patients for scientists researching new therapies and cures for AIDS.*** NDRI researchers are using this tissue to study how HIV destroys the immune system and clarify the cellular and anatomic sites and mechanisms of HIV persistence. Tissue recovery from HIV positive donors will allow scientists to develop new treatments that target the virus as well as to advance research aimed at a cure.

As the gatekeeper for all hospital death referrals in your service area, NDRI needs your help. With patient or family consent, *obtained by NDRI or a third party such as Statline*, NDRI can facilitate the recovery of tissue samples for distribution to HIV/AIDS scientists across the country. We accept brain dead and cardiac dead patients, as well as symptomatic and asymptomatic donors. As low post-mortem times are of the greatest value to our researchers, making an early referral is imperative.

NDRI coordinators are on call 24 hours to handle these referrals and to work with OPO or tissue bank staff to evaluate the case, secure consent and coordinate tissue



recovery. If you currently use a third-party such as ***Statline*** to screen your referrals and obtain consent, NDRI can still be contacted. We are currently working with Statline to include an HIV donor protocol in their screening process to ensure these referrals are not rejected. ***With your permission, Statline can refer these deaths directly to NDRI for screening and consent.***

If consent is obtained, NDRI has technicians available to recover tissue. NDRI will supply referral materials and information in English and Spanish for donor families.

You no longer need to turn away HIV positive referrals. Whether you have a steady number of HIV/AIDS referrals or only a few, they are all valuable for this research project. If you would like to collaborate with NDRI in this extremely important program, please contact Danielle Leyh, MPH, CHES, 800-222-6374 x237 or dleyh@ndriresource.org

**Please complete the following information and check all that apply.
Fax to Danielle Leyh @ 215-557-7154 or email at dleyh@ndriresource.org**

Name of OPO: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____

☐ Currently use Statline

☐ Currently have our own call center staff

☐ Yes, I am interested in collaborating with the NDRI HIV Program

☐ I would like to receive your HIV Reference Materials

☐ Please Contact me to discuss further details

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