Will I Find Out the Results of the Research using my Tissue?

You will receive the results of your medical test (e.g. biopsy, blood test), but you will not get the results of the research performed with your leftover tissue. Tissue research takes a long time and requires tissue samples from many people before results are known; results may not be ready for many years. These results do not affect your care when you donate the tissue.

Acknowledgements to National Institutes of Health for use of their informational material.
MISSION STATEMENT
To collect high quality samples of normal and diseased human material with appropriate clinical annotation and make these materials, known as biospecimens, available to qualified researchers while ensuring the informed consent, safety and anonymity of all providers.

WHAT IS A BIOSPECIMEN?
A biospecimen is defined as any body material which includes tissue, blood and other body fluids.

WHY DO BIOSPECIMEN RESEARCH?
Research with biospecimens can help find out more about what causes disease, how to prevent it, how to treat it and ultimately how to cure it.

Some of this research includes searching for the causes of cancer, heart disease, diabetes and other diseases.

You will not get to decide what specific research your tissue is used for, just as you do not get to decide who gets your blood when you donate at a blood drive. However, you will have the reward of knowing you helped researchers find new ways to prevent and treat diseases.

WHAT TYPE OF RESEARCH CAN BE DONE WITH BIOSPECIMENS?
- Helping scientists understand how tissues become diseased
- Development of new tests to detect diseases
- Developing new ways to treat or even cure diseases

CONFIDENTIALITY
The Biospecimen Archive is responsible for ensuring that information about you is kept in strict confidence. The Biospecimen Archive will also take careful steps to prevent misuse of records. The Biospecimen Archive is regulated by the healthcare privacy laws (HIPPA) and the BUMC Institutional Review Board.

If you have any questions, Please call the Biospecimen Archive Research Core Manager at 617 414-7089.