Negev Biobank at Soroka Medical Center

The use of human biological specimens in medicine is the focus of current public and professional interest worldwide. Yet the diagnosis of most medical disorders is severely hampered by the absence of reliable biomarkers that can be measured prior to the development of diseases.

Furthermore, a gap exists between the advanced scientific methodology that allows for precise genetic mapping and our ability to apply in practice the knowledge it provides in a large population. The development of advanced genetics and biomarkers is limited by the lack of population-based analysis.

We propose to establish the Negev Biobank (NBB), a state-of-the-art repository for bio-specimens that will operate as the first large-scale, population-based biological archive in Israel.

The NBB will take advantage of the unique organizational structure of the Negev's health care system, with Soroka serving as the only tertiary care referral hospital for a population of over 1,000,000. The NBB will collect, process and store tissues, blood samples, and other biological specimens from all patients admitted to Soroka.

The NBB will provide a unique platform for translational research that stems from collaborations between clinical investigators from Soroka and basic science research from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (BGU). This clinical-translational cooperation will yield new scientific paradigms tailored to the unique genetic profile and environmental exposures of the Negev population, and will foster the discovery of disease biomarkers and novel therapeutic modalities.

The NBB will enhance Soroka Medical Center's status as a leading center for personalized medicine that provides high-quality, timely medical services to all residents of the Negev.

Donor recognition will take place via the naming of the Negev Biobank, and will be prominently displayed on site and on all official Negev Biobank publications. Research projects that emanate from the Negev Biobank will be presented at national and international conferences and published in leading scientific journals.

Naming Opportunity: $2,000,000

Prominent donor recognition will be provided at Soroka Medical Center on site at the Clinical Research Institute and on the Donors' Wall of Honor. In addition, the donor will be our honored guest at a dignified public dedication ceremony.

Soroka Medical Center

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