



1 What is a Biobank?

The West German Biobank Essen (WBE) collects biological samples and data for research. The following **types of samples** can be processed, stored and managed by the biobank staff in a professional and appropriate manner:

- Liquid biosamples e.g., blood, urine and cerebrospinal liquid
- Tissue material: formalin-fixed, cryopreserved, fresh material
- Storage of other biosamples e.g., cell lines, DNA

2 What services does the Biobank offer?

2.1 Storage options:

The samples entrusted to us are stored for

- Liquid material at -80 °C
- DNA at -80 °C
- Cryogenetic tissue at -150 °C
- FFPE material at RT
- Storage in the gas phase of liquid nitrogen (e.g., for cell lines)

2.2 Collection of samples:

The Biobank offers project-dependent and -independent sample collection at the UKE and the RLK.

- Cooperation partners can store biosamples free of charge using the biobank's broad consent; no project needs to be submitted to the biobank for this purpose.
- Biosample collection is also free of charge for project-dependent biobanking.
- If a collection strategy is agreed upon with the biobank in advance, the respective samples from the cooperation partners will be stored for later projects.

The WBE is also offering a hosting for samples that are not collected as part of the biobank.

2.3 Biosample release:

The release of biosamples is only possible with an existing project and is subject to a fee.

2.4 Services:

The Biobank is offering the following services:

- Digitalization of slides (SlideScanning)
- Preparation of von TMAs
- Preparation of section (paraffin/cryo)
- DNA isolation

Services can be requested from the Biobank independent of an existing project. The service is subject to a fee and can only be provided within the framework of an existing service request. (roXtra ID: [94136](#)).

You can find a current price catalog for WBE services in roXtra under ID: [107084](#).

WBE	Änderung	Verfasser	Freigabe	durch	
471649	31.03.2026		10.04.2026	Zwanziger, Denise	001/04.2026



3 Want to apply for a project at the Biobank?

If you are interested in conducting a project with the WBE, you must first submit a project application to biobank@uk-essen.de with the following informations:

- a fully completed project application form of the WBE (roXtra ID: [50565](#)),
- a project description with the following points:
 - scientific background
 - project question
 - preliminary work/bibliography
 - planned examinations/analysis methods
 - involvement of cooperation partners
- Positive ethics statement (to obtain this, fill out the sample text provided by the Ethics Commission (www.uni-due.de/ethikkommission/beratung/mustervorlagen; Musterantrag, Punkte 1-3)
 - Layperson-friendly description of the project for the WBE website
 - Additional information for patients (requirement of the Ethics Committee)

Please send your complete application documents to:

biobank@uk-essen.de

If you have any questions about preparing the documents or general questions about your project application, please feel free to contact the Biobank team. We will be happy to help you with your questions. You can also find more information on our homepage.

(<https://www.uni-due.de/med/biobank/>).



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Homepage

<https://www.uni-due.de/med/biobank/>

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