

Network for Pancreatic Organ Donors with Diabetes (NPOD)

The UF Health Diabetes Center of Excellence is fortunate to serve as the primary coordinating agency for a unique research project called nPOD (Network for Pancreatic Organ Donors with Diabetes). Funded by a grant from the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), nPOD is an innovative program that provides scientists from around the world with high-resolution tissue samples from organ donors who have consented to advance a cure through the gift of research. Currently, nPOD supports over 30 type 1 diabetes-related scientific studies and over 150 diabetes investigators at institutions around the world.

The goals of the nPOD initiative are to: 1) To maintain a network of procuring and characterizing, in a collaborative manner, pancreata and related tissues (spleen, lymph node, pancreatic lymph node, peripheral blood) from cadaveric organ donors with type 1 diabetes as well as those whom are islet autoantibody positive; and 2) Using these tissues, investigators will address key immunological, histological, viral, and metabolic questions related to how type 1 diabetes develops.