COVID-19 Biospecimen Subcommittee: Judith Woodfolk, MBChB, PhD, Chair; Alex Kadl, MD, MS; Cathy Bonham, MD; Jeff Sturek, MD, PhD; Mayuresh Abhyankar, PhD; William Petri, MD, PhD; and Pat Pramoonjago, PhD.

COVID-19 Biospecimen Research Request
The COVID-19 Biospecimen Subcommittee has been tasked to review requests for biospecimen from COVID-19 subjects. To attempt to serve the broad needs of all interested UVA SOM Investigators, we will be creating biorepositories from two general sources: (1) plasma samples from the “to otherwise be discarded” repository collected on the day of diagnosis of COVID-19 and subsequent days of hospitalization. BAL, urine, and stool will be available on a limited number of subjects. These samples will include a Limited Data Set that includes patient ICD codes on admission, medications, laboratory data and outcomes and (2) prospective banking of samples (DNA, RNA, serum, plasma, and PBMC) with active enrollment. These samples will be collected on the initial hospital day for COVID-19 subjects and approximately 24 hours and 7 days after the first blood draw, and on day of discharge. To submit requests or for questions, please email Fabrizio Drago (fd2u@virginia.edu).

PLEASE NOTE:
The specimens you are requesting are not currently in hand. It is our intent to collect them, but the number of subjects that we enroll and the amount of biospecimen obtained is subject to many factors outside our control (number of COVID-19 patients admitted to UVA hospital, patient consent in the case of prospective samples, clinical safety, etc.) As such, any recommendation from the COVID-19 Biospecimen Subcommittee is based on our best hopes for supporting your research and in no way can guarantee that we will indeed have the quantity and type of specimen requested. If the PI is interested in immediately available samples, biospecimen (including serum) from a smaller number (n=14) of critically ill patients with COVID-19 had been collected by Dr. Alex Kadl as part of the MICU biorepository before the creation of the centralized COVID-19 biorepository. Requests for these samples should be made to this subcommittee of the CRPC using this form and coordination of acquisition of sample and clinical data done through collaboration with Dr. Kadl (ak5sc@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu).

Given that there may be a limited number of COVID-19 samples available, each request will be evaluated based on the following criteria: (1) type and amount of specimen requested, (2) application of sample sparing methods, and (3) potential for data sharing with other investigators in order to maximize research efforts while mitigating duplication of results.

Before starting work, you are required to notify the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) of the nature and location of your work with COVID-19 samples. If work will be performed in a research lab, you will be required to obtain IBC approval to work with COVID-19 samples. Before starting work, you will also be required to obtain all regulatory approvals (IRB).

The price per sample will be consistent with current BTRF pricing. Remember to include this in any grant budgets.

If requested, we can provide a letter attesting to our plan to provide you needed biospecimen for your grant proposal.

Please provide answers to the following information:

1. Title of the Project:
2. PI Name:
3. PI email address:
4. PI Department/School
5. May we cite your proposal on the Committee website to promote collaboration?
6. Is this a clinical trial? (If yes, contact the Clinical Trial Coordinating Committee)
7. Background: (<5 sentences)
8. Hypothesis to be tested: (one sentence)
9. Significance: (<5 sentences)
10. Proposed work: (500 words maximum)
11. Any applicable IRB protocols? (if so, the IRB#)
12. Rapid start feasible?
13. What type of specimen and what volume or cell numbers per specimen:
14. How many patients and specimens:
15. Statistical analysis of the sample size required to test your hypothesis:
16. Name of your collaborating biostatistician:
17. Describe your expertise and experience to conduct the proposed work:
18. Timeline for completion:
19. Plans for grant applications using this data: