



PENN *Legacy*
TISSUE PROGRAM

BUILDING A LASTING

Legacy

INTERESTED AND WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Please talk to your cancer care provider or contact the PLTP team at PLTP@pennmedicine.upenn.edu to learn more about the program.

UNDERSTANDING HOW TUMORS RESPOND, FAIL TO RESPOND, AND EVOLVE AROUND TREATMENT IS CRITICAL TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF OVARIAN CANCER CARE. The Penn Legacy Tissue Program (PLTP) is fundamental for obtaining the tissue necessary to learn more about these processes. Participating in this program allows you to take part in important clinical research and maximize your own personal contribution to the study of a disease that has significantly affected your life so that others can benefit.

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**LEAVE A LEGACY BY CREATING
HOPE FOR THE FUTURE**

WHAT TO EXPECT

ONCE ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM



You will be given direct contact information for the PLTP team.



Arrangements will be made for the PLTP team to be contacted immediately at the time of death.



Once the name of your funeral home has been provided to the PLTP team, your family can proceed with funeral arrangements at their own pace.



The PLTP team will obtain consent from next of kin and make all transportation arrangements at no cost to your family.



The rapid autopsy will be performed and tissue/tumors removed and banked for research.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW DO THE RESEARCHERS OBTAIN TISSUE THEY NEED FOR RESEARCH?

The tissues needed for research are obtained during a rapid autopsy.

WHAT IS RAPID AUTOPSY?

Rapid autopsy is a procedure performed soon after a patient's passing to collect tumor tissue before it has a chance to degrade. Each tissue sample can provide an astonishing amount of data, all of which can be invaluable to researchers. Normal tissues may also be collected. This is key to understanding the genetics of ovarian cancer which can help us develop new drugs and drug combinations to improve the outcomes for women with this disease, and others who have yet to be diagnosed.

HOW SOON DOES A RAPID AUTOPSY NEED TO BE PERFORMED?

The goal is to begin the tissue collection within six hours after death. The procedure will typically take two to four hours to complete. Throughout the entire process, we ensure that family members do not feel rushed and have adequate time with their loved one.

WHERE IS THE RAPID AUTOPSY PERFORMED?

The autopsy is performed in a state-of-the-art autopsy facility within the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. The procedure will involve a specialized medical doctor called a pathologist with the assistance of a pathology assistant.

CAN WE WITHDRAW OUR PERMISSION TO DONATE ONCE WE HAVE REGISTERED?

You may withdraw from the donation program at any time. All you need to do is contact your cancer care provider or the PLTP team and inform them of your decision.

IF I OR MY LOVED ONE HAS TERMINAL CANCER, WHEN IS A GOOD TIME TO THINK ABOUT PARTICIPATION IN THE LEGACY TISSUE PROGRAM?

While it may be overwhelming and emotional, it is important to begin making plans for tissue donation as soon as possible. Ensuring that all details are coordinated prior to death will prevent additional stress during a very difficult time.

DOES TISSUE DONATION PREVENT VIEWING AT THE FUNERAL?

A rapid autopsy procedure does not involve parts of the body that would prevent a viewing from taking place.

