



The National Ataxia Foundation (NAF) and the University of Florida's Center for NeuroGenetics (CNG) are working together to maintain a repository of brain and spinal cord tissue from Spinocerebellar Ataxia (SCA) donors. This tissue is available to SCA researchers to help advance our understanding of these diseases and to develop new therapies.

## What is Available?

Our collection contains post-mortem brains and spinal cords. At the time of collection, brains are divided, processed and stored as either formalin fixed or frozen tissues. Most tissue specimens are available as prepared formalin fixed slides or as frozen tissues.

Disease types available:

- SCA types 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12
- Sporadic ataxia/OPCA, MSA-C

## How to Request Tissues?

- Email Dr. Laura Ranum ([ranum@ufl.edu](mailto:ranum@ufl.edu)) and Coordinator Deborah Morrison ([dgmorrison@ufl.edu](mailto:dgmorrison@ufl.edu)) with the following information:
  - Tissue being requested and purpose to get started (disease type, specific tissue requirements, brain region, # of samples)

At a later point, we will request the IRB approval letter that allows you to accept these specimens, a physical mailing address where tissues are to be shipped, and once samples are ready, a FedEx account number for shipping.

## What Will You Receive?

- An estimate of the time to prepare your specimens
- A processing fee may be required to cover costs of sample preparation
- Copies of our IRB approval letter and Informed Consent Form for your records
- Basic demographic information on sample (sex, age at death, family history...)
- The requested samples (pending availability & processing time)

For information on the repository - <https://neurogenetics.med.ufl.edu>

For information on tissue donation - [www.ataxia.org/braindonation](http://www.ataxia.org/braindonation)



**UF** | Center for NeuroGenetics  
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