

Request for Comprehensive Consent for Using Samples from Medical Examination for Medical Investigation

1. Background

Yamato City Hospital is one of the core, medical training hospitals. It is conducting medical investigations in order to provide the best possible medical treatment to each and every patient.

2. Samples from medical examination

Your medical information, including your disease and test samples, is collected when you receive a medical examination at Yamato City Hospital. They consist mainly of medical records, X-ray photography, endoscopic photography, image information such as operation movies, test samples of blood and urine, biopsy samples for diagnosis, excised tissues and their photography. Hereafter, they will collectively be referred to as “samples from medical examination”.

3. Using samples from medical examination

Samples from medical examination are collected and stored after your medical examination, but they could provide important information for medical investigation even after they are no longer needed for your own medical examination. Case in point, the diagnosis and medical treatment that Yamato City Hospital now provides is the result of medical investigation of past samples.

The hospital would like to use your samples for research of illnesses and the development of medical treatments.

4. Comprehensive consent

We require your comprehensive consent. Comprehensive consent means that you give your consent in advance for Yamato City Hospital to use samples from your medical examination for medical investigation. The hospital will not examine or collect additional blood.

The Ethical Committee of the hospital will deliberate on the content of the medical investigation for each case. The hospital will use the samples for medical investigation within the range of approval set by the committee when a patient does not indicate disapprobation.

5. Voluntary participation, rejection and withdrawal

Providing samples for medical investigation is voluntary. However, Yamato City Hospital will use them for medical investigation when a patient does not indicate disapprobation.

Please fill in the blanks for the “Disapprobation Form for Using Samples for Medical Investigation” and “Disapprobation Withdrawal Form for Using Samples for Medical Investigation” and submit them at the Information Desk on the first floor of the hospital in the case of disapprobation or disapprobation withdrawal. You can get the forms there and at the hospital ward staff station.

Be assured, your care will never be disadvantaged if you do choose disapprobation.

6. Genetic test

All living things--humans, animals, plants and micro-organisms--have genes. And it's the genes that make up the units of the genetic code.

Research about genetic mutation in diagnosis, choice of medical treatment and medical investigation has been increasing on the medical front. And in recent years, it has become more and more obvious due to the improvement of medical investigation that genetic mutation is related to the outbreak of disease, including cancers.

Genetic mutation has two types. One is germline mutation, which is inherited and congenital. The other is somatic mutation, which is the direct result from the course of living and is acquired; in other words, it is not inherited, but caused.

Germline mutation, as referred to above, does not apply to comprehensive consent. Somatic mutation, on the other hand, does apply to comprehensive consent. Yamato City Hospital will confirm a patient's indication for each and every research conducted and then do research only on the cases of consent.

The Ethical Committee of the hospital will deliberate on the content of the medical investigation for each case and the hospital will do research according to the rules of the national ethical guidelines.

7. Personal information protection

Samples of medical examination are anonymized and Yamato City Hospital makes every effort to keep the information confidential when they are being used for medical investigation. The results of medical investigation may be made public through academic conferences and medical professional journals, but the hospital will never provide any identifying personal information.

8. Conclusion

Yamato City Hospital is making great efforts as one of the leading hospitals on the front line of local medical service. The hospital hopes you understand that it will only use samples from medical examination in order to provide better medical treatment to its future patients.

Director of Yamato City Hospital

If you have any concerns or questions about this document, please feel free to make inquiries.

Phone service for the Yamato City Hospital's Patient Support Center is available from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday.

Phone number: 046-260-0111 (Ext.2322・2564)

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