In Vitro Use of Primary Human Tissue in Research Labs

The safe use of primary human tissue (including blood and biopsy samples) requires several steps. All primary human samples must be handled following Universal Precautions and work with these samples must be approved by the Institutional Biological & Chemical Safety. Additionally, the lab must be enrolled in the Washington University Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP) Exposure Control plan (Appendix 15) and include the BBP training as part of the annual lab-specific training. Appropriate BSL2 signage must be posted at the entrance to the lab.

If the primary tissues will be transduced with retroviral or lentiviral vectors the tissues must first be screened for HIV and any positive samples must be discarded appropriately.

Please contact the Biological & Chemical Safety Division (747-0309, http://ehs.wustl.edu/labs/labsafety.htm) of Environmental Health & Safety for additional information on protocol approvals and enrollment in the WU BBP Exposure Control Plan.