

# Biobank Showcase



Building public confidence in sharing  
tissue and data for research

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# Joint HRA/HTA public dialogue to understand better what and how we should ask consent for sharing patient data to be linked with donated tissue



## **The Health Research Authority (HRA)**

To protect patients in health research  
Approve health research studies

## **The Human Tissue Authority (HTA)**

Provides guidance and sets standards for the removal, storage, and use of human tissue and organs

## **Sciencewise**

**Ipsos MORI team  
Improvisers  
Experts  
Independent Evaluator**

# Talking to the public

- General public invited to attend two deliberative workshops
- 3 locations across England
- 25 people in each group
- Members of general public recruited in the street according to a quota
- Experts invited to debate issues with the public



# Context

- Tissue of little value without patient data
- Lack of adequate consent at time that tissue sample is taken
- Lack of adequate guidance on consent for sharing future patient data in relation to tissue
- What happens when tissue becomes data?



# The big question

## How should researchers seek permission to link patient data with human tissue for health-related research?

- What is the most trustworthy way?
- What are the best ways, to reduce delays and extra costs?
- What exactly do people 'consent' to?



# Three areas of discussion

- **Biobanks & broad consent**
- **Genomics England consent**
- **Dynamic consent**









## Some early findings

- Public support the notion of data sharing with tissue donation for research. They clearly understand the public benefit but have some concerns about commercial gain.
- Public are in the main supportive of research, and welcome opportunities for their genetic data to be used.
- Public support consent for unlimited future use of data as well as past



# Cont.

- Would like to have ability to opt out of consent for some types of research or researchers
- Room for improvement for current consent forms and need to ensure greater clarity
- Support for notion of dynamic consent but appreciate the costs of setting up
- Strong views on the access committee



# An access committee can include...



**Ethicists**



**Biobank experts**



**Doctors**



**Patient  
representatives**



**Biobank participants**

# How will we use the results

- Results of public debate will feed into joint HRA/HTA guidance on consent for sharing patient data linked to tissue
- Inform the work of Genomics England
- Building on work already carried out by Wellcome and others on patient data



**Thank you**

**Any questions?**

**Please send comments suggestions to  
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