



# nPOD

Network for Pancreatic Organ  
Donors with Diabetes



## What every OPO Director should know about nPOD

nPOD's mission is to support approved scientific investigators by providing, without cost, rare and difficult to obtain tissues beneficial to their research. nPOD currently supports over 25 type 1 diabetes-related scientific studies at institutions around the world.

nPOD depends on Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs) to help us identify eligible donors. We want to thank the OPOs that currently support nPOD and invite others to participate in the project. We seek tissues from the following donor groups:

### **Donors with Type 1 diabetes and Joslin Medalists:**

These donors help our scientists uncover the subtle, yet expansive differences among people with Type 1 diabetes, which ultimately will answer questions about disease progression, treatment, and the ability to sustain a small yet functioning population of beta cells.

### **Donors with recently diagnosed Type 1 diabetes:**

These donors are potentially key to helping our scientific investigators unlock the early disease process in Type 1 diabetes and answer fundamental questions about the autoimmune process that leads to the destruction of the insulin producing beta cells in the pancreas.

**Donors who have Type 1 diabetes-related autoantibodies, but no clinical symptoms of the disease:** Gifts from this group of donors will help scientists study the autoimmune process at the very earliest stages of beta-cell destruction. To identify these donors, nPOD has set up autoantibody screening laboratories at four locations in the United States.

For more information on how you can participate in nPOD, [please contact us](#). And thank you for your continued support of nPOD and diabetes research.

nPOD will be at a conference near you

nPOD staff will be on site at a number of scientific and professional conferences this summer. Please be sure to visit our booth if you have plans to be at any of the following events:

[American Diabetes Association \(ADA\), 69th Scientific Sessions](#), June 2009, New Orleans

[Association of Organ Procurement Organizations \(AOPO\), Annual Meeting](#), June 2009, St. Louis, MO

[North American Transplant Coordinators Organization \(NATCO\), 34th Annual Meeting](#), August 2009, Las Vegas

## Are you interested in pancreatic pathology in diabetes?

If so, we invite you to apply for a password to nPOD's online pathology database, an around-the-clock resource for qualified scientific investigators. (To qualify as a scientific investigator, you must have an article identifiable in PubMed on which you are a co-author.) At our site you can:

- [Request a username and password](#)
- [Review pancreatic histology of nPOD cases](#)
- [Review an online tutorial that explains how to use the Aperio ImageScope software](#)

## nPOD launches new interactive website



nPOD is proud to announce the launch of its new interactive website, located at [www.jdrfnpod.org](http://www.jdrfnpod.org). The new site features numerous upgrades, including:

- [online resources for investigators](#)
- [online resources for our partners and screening labs](#)
- [General information about nPOD](#), including an updated list of scientific investigators, our partners, and our mission
- An upgrade to version 10.0 of the Aperio ImageScope software for nPOD's online pathology site

Please be sure to [visit the site regularly](#) for updates on the nPOD project.

## Partner Spotlight: NDRI

Over the past 25 years, the [National Disease Research Interchange \(NDRI\)](#) has built partnerships with a national network of 58 Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs). nPOD's partnership with NDRI simplifies participation in the nPOD project for OPOs. One phone call to NDRI can connect a gift from a donor with the nPOD project and the team of worldwide investigators we support. For more information, [please contact nPOD](#).



## Interested in learning more about nPOD?

Please contact the nPOD coordinator via email at [npod@pathology.ufl.edu](mailto:npod@pathology.ufl.edu) or by phone at (352) 846-3965.

In our next edition of the nPOD e-newsletter

- *Learn about the scientific progress of nPOD studies*
- *Gain a better understanding of the autoantibody screening process*

For more information, please visit [www.jdrfnpod.org](http://www.jdrfnpod.org).