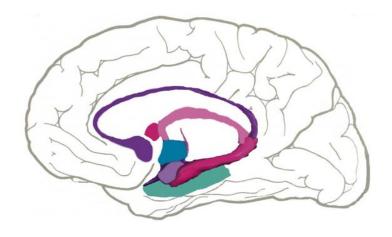


Southwest Brain Bank



Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Paul L. Foster School of Medicine

Department of Psychiatry

Peter Thompson, M.D., M.S. Director Angelica Forero, M.A. Senior Research Scientist Matthew Fagan, M.S. Senior Research Scientist Katherine Najera, M.S. Research Aide



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER... EL PASO





The Southwest Brain Bank occupies lab space in the Medical Sciences Building at TTUHSC El Paso, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine. We also have a -80°C freezer room, and a separate space for the dissection and processing of donated tissue.







Regulation

State of Texas Anatomical Review Board

- Health and Safety Code Title 8. Death and Disposition of the Body. Subtitle B. Disposition of the Body Chapter 691. Anatomical Board of the State of Texas.
- Subchapter B. Donation and Distribution of Bodies and Anatomical Specimens.
- 691.022. General duties. (a) The board shall distribute bodies and anatomical specimens to institutions authorized to receive them.

TTUHSC El Paso-Institutional Review Board

- NOK Interview: Protocol # E16046.
- Longitudinal Study: Protocol # E16046.



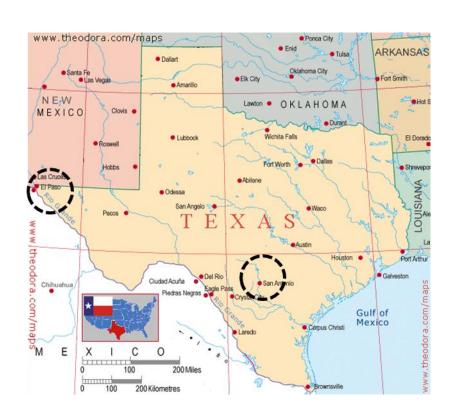
Tissue Collection Programs

- Mental Illness Brain Bank: schizophrenia, depression, bipolar disorder, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), suicide, alcohol abuse. Normal controls are also collected.
- Longitudinal Donor Program: Individuals can enroll in this program to donate their brain to the SWBB after death.



Tissue Collection Sites

- Bexar County Medical Examiner's Office (Dr. Frost)
- El Paso County Medical Examiner's Office (Dr. Rascon)





Focus of Research

- Bipolar Disorder
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Suicide
- Schizophrenia
- Depression
- Alcoholism
- Drug Addiction
- Frontotemporal Lobar Degeneration (Dementia)



Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Inclusion Criteria:

- Mental Illness.
 (Depression, Bipolar, Suicide, PTSD)
- Normal Controls.
- Postmortem Interval <48 hrs.
- Age <85 yrs.
- Next-of-kin (NOK) consents to donation and interview.
- Medical Examiner releases brain.

Exclusion Criteria:

- History of seizures.

 (childhood febrile and alcohol withdrawal case by case)
- •On ventilator >24 hrs.
- Contagious bacterial or viral infection. (Hep A, C; meningitis; HIV; SARS; etc.)
- Brain hemorrhage, infarcts, tumors.
- Decomposed.
- Sepsis.





Tissue is extracted at on-site and, for locations outside of El Paso, packed and shipped to our lab. Donations are shipped by the quickest possible route and arrive at the lab the same day.

The shipping materials include a watertight container, ice packs, watertight bags, and collection tubes for additional blood and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF).

Once received, the tissue is processed immediately for storage.

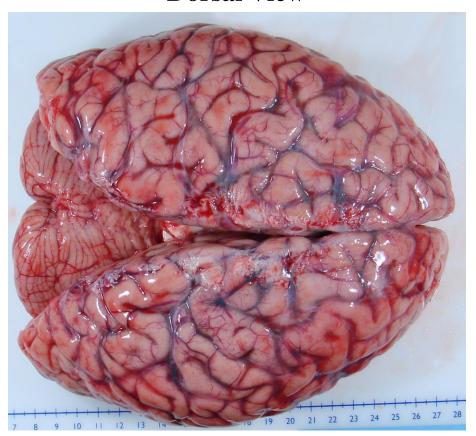




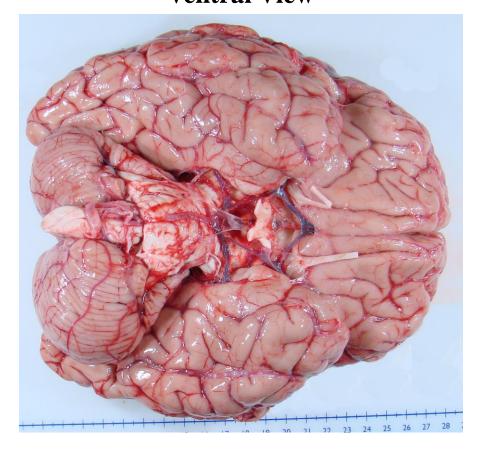


Whole Brain

Dorsal View



Ventral View

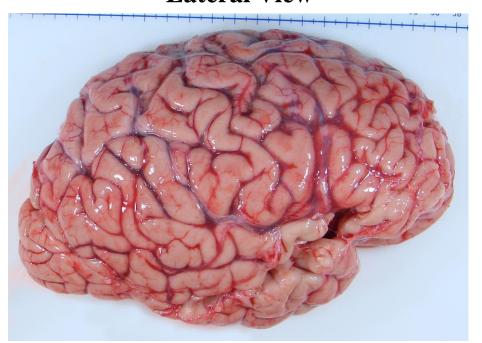




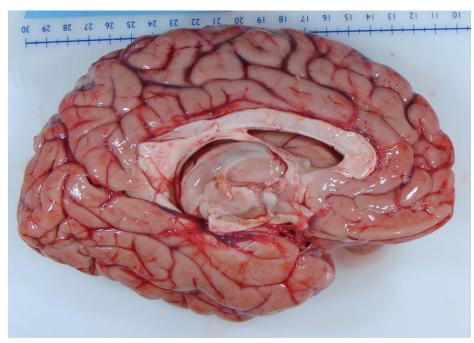


Bisected Brain

Lateral View



Medial View



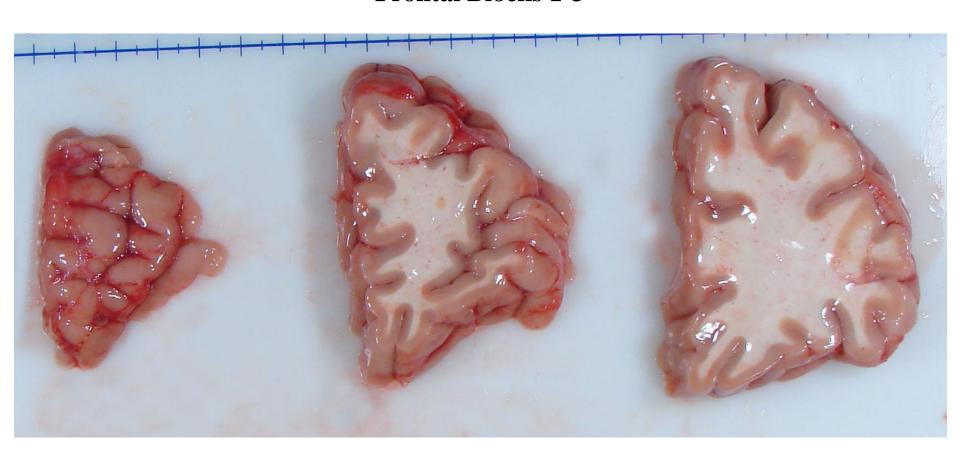




Cut Brain Sections - Cerebrum

After bisecting the brain, it is cut front to back (coronally) into 1cm thick blocks

Frontal Blocks 1-3

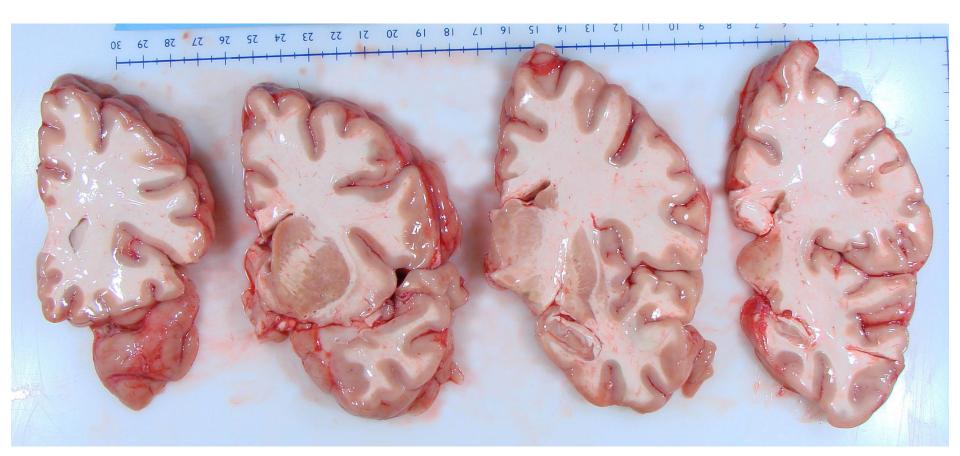






Cut Brain Sections - Cerebrum

Frontal-Parietal-Temporal Blocks 4-7

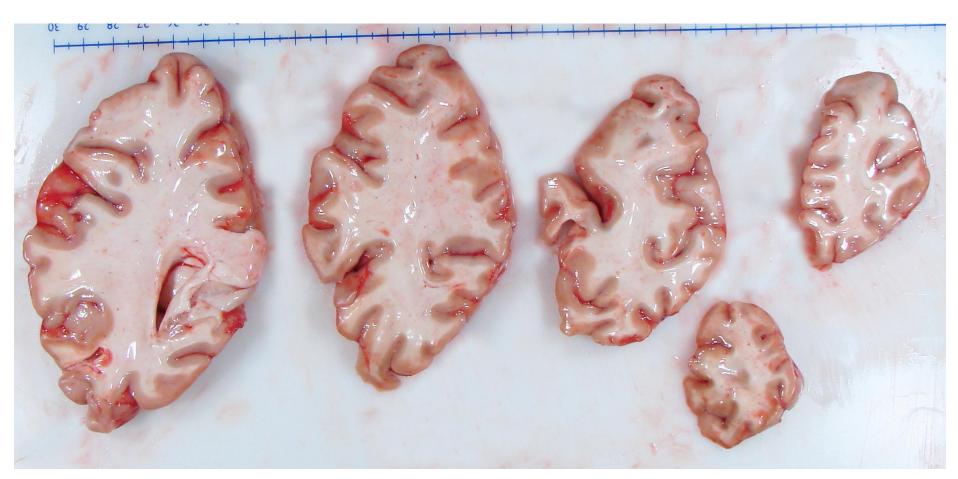






Cut Brain Sections - Cerebrum

Parietal-Occipital Blocks 8-12







Cut Brain Sections - Cerebellum and Brain Stem

Removed and processed separately, the cerebellum and brain stem are cut from the center-line outwards (sagittal) into 1cm blocks.





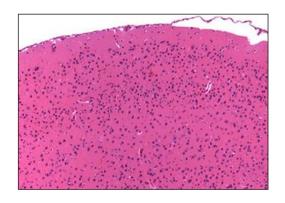
Neuropathological Evaluation

Samples for Neuropathology

- 1. Frontal cortex
- 2. Striatum
- 3. Pons
- 4. Medulla
- 5. Hippocampus and Entorhinal cortex
- 6. Substantia Nigra
- 7. Cerebellum (including dentate nucleus)

Sections are stained using **Hematoxylin** and Eosin (H&E), and Bielschowsky silver stain. H&E staining is used to visualize the cell bodies of neurons and glial cells, while the Bielschowsky stain is used to show normal axons and dendrites.

Hematoxylin & Eosin Stain



Bielschowsky Silver Stain









Postmortem Consensus Diagnosis

All cases undergo an extensive review by a panel of three independent, licensed clinicians (a minimum of two are board certified psychiatrists). The information reviewed includes:

- Postmortem psychiatric assessment using several instruments (questions answered by the next of kin).
- Medical records released by next of kin.
- Toxicology reports.
- Neuropathology reports.

After review of information, a DSM-IV/V psychiatric diagnosis is given to each subject.





Tissue collected by the Southwest Brain Bank is available to other researchers with approved projects. Along with submitting a tissue request, researchers sign an agreement that covers the risks involved with postmortem brain tissue, the regulatory burden, in addition to other legal aspects involved in receiving tissue.



Southwest Brain Bank Tissue Request Form

Department:					
Institution:					
Mailing Address:	Shipping Address:				
Email:					
Phone#:	Fax#:				
Project Funding Source:					
Tissue requested, includi	ing: brain region,	amount, pr	eservatio	on method (fro	zen, fixed) etc.
			eservatio	on method (fro:	
Tissue requested, includi Subject Information: Diagnoses	# of Subjects	amount, pr Age Range	Sex	on method (fro:	
Subject Information:	# of	Age			PMI Range

PLEASE ATTACH A BRIEF BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT. A STATEMENT OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES, AND THE EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN FOR USE OF THE TISSUE REQUESTED, AND EMAIL TO swbb.elp@ttubsc.edu.

Southwest Brain Bank Tissue Request Form





<u>Links:</u>

National Instute of Mental Health http://www.nimh.nih.gov/

National Alliance on Mental Illness http://www.nami.org/

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance http://www.dbsalliance.org/