

## **Bioethics Research: Contemporary Debates**

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### Motivation and justification for fair sharing of data between bio-banks

Flora Colledge

Institute for Bio- and Medical Ethics, Universität Basel

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#### **Abstract**

The raison d'être of many biobanks is to make samples, and/or data relating to those samples, available to researchers. Certain biobanks must also obtain these samples from external parties, such as pathologists in hospitals. Transfer relationships are therefore an inherent part of biobanking. My talk concerns the motivations for these relationships. I begin by examining the concept of fairness in philosophy, and its applications in the research and scientific sector. Next, I will provide some background on the ways in which data and/or samples are transferred in biobanking, and how considerations of fairness are at play in, and can justify, existing systems. I will then address the specific interests of all the parties involved, and suggest that biobanking offers some unique opportunities for establishing fair sharing systems in the scientific community.

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**Contact:** Stuart McLennan: +41 61 260 11 33 or [s.mclennan@unibas.ch](mailto:s.mclennan@unibas.ch)

