



SBMS CODE OF CONDUCT FOR USE OF DONATED HUMAN TISSUES

The examination of donated human tissues for teaching or research is a privileged undertaking. The School of Biomedical Sciences (SBMS) demands all users to conduct themselves with a professional attitude and behaviour that is above reproach.

This code applies to all individuals using SBMS Anatomy Facilities where donated human tissues are present. By entering these facilities users agree to adhere to this code. This code adds to other requirements of the [3.60.01 Student Code of Conduct](#) of The University of Queensland (UQ) and to the [1.50.01 Staff Code of Conduct](#).

THE CODE:

1. Removal of human tissue from the anatomy facilities is strictly prohibited.*
2. Body donor confidentiality shall be maintained at all times.
3. Under no circumstances shall numerical specimen identifiers be removed. If an identification tag becomes detached, laboratory staff shall be notified immediately so appropriate action can be taken.
4. All users shall comply with the [Transplantation and Anatomy Act, 1979 \(Qld\)](#) [1].
5. Only authorised students and staff are permitted in the anatomy facilities. The general public including non-anatomy students, anatomy students from other Universities, friends, or relatives, are not permitted.
6. Staff and students shall carry UQ identification at all times. Students must display their student identification cards above the waist and on their lab coats when in the Gross Anatomy Facility (GAF).
7. Only School-endorsed and authorised activities shall be conducted within the anatomy facilities.
8. Incisions, dissections, and/or other physically invasive examinations are not permitted without approved authorisation by the Head of School / Anatomy Custodian / Chief Anatomist.
9. At all times, donated human tissue shall be handled with dignity, care and respect.
10. As a sign of respect, hats, caps and other headwear are not permitted, except for those of recognised religious significance.
11. In accordance with the Transplantation and Anatomy Act, 1979 (Qld) any persons performing “an anatomical examination upon a body shall do so in a **quiet, orderly and decent** manner” [1].
12. Dignified language shall be used at all times.
13. Photography is strictly prohibited.*
14. Personal electronic devices, including mobile phones or any other recording device, are not permitted in the Gross Anatomy Facility. Any exceptions must have the prior written approval of the Anatomy Custodian or authorised delegate. All requests must provide a justification as to the need (e.g., an on-call physician).
15. Facility users are prohibited from referring to activities undertaken in the Facility on social media or the internet and from the use of cadavers for entertainment, profit or use for personal purposes.



16. Facility users shall follow the directions and/or requests of SBMS staff and will adhere to anatomy facility induction guidelines.
 17. Laboratory prescribed Occupational Health and Safety procedures shall be followed.
 18. Considerate, respectful, honest and caring behaviour shall be employed within the anatomy facilities.
 19. Prior to the commencement of any research activities, approvals shall be obtained from both the SBMS Anatomy Teaching and Research Management Committee (ATARM) and one of UQ's NHMRC-registered Human Research Ethics Committees.
 20. Any person who knows of a family member or friend who has previously been accepted to the UQ Body Donor Program, and is scheduled to undertake anatomy in the SBMS anatomical facilities, shall notify Gross Anatomy Facility staff prior to undertaking any anatomical work so that alternative arrangements can be considered.
- * The Anatomy Custodian (or delegate) reserves the right to provide specially designated written exceptions.

ENFORCEMENT:

- Security video surveillance is in use.
- All users of anatomical material have a responsibility to ensure enforcement of this code. Breaches should be immediately reported to supervisory staff.
- Supervisory staff, including professional staff, academic staff, demonstrators and external workshop leaders shall monitor compliance.
- Random audits and checks may be undertaken at any time by SBMS Staff and/or the Queensland State Government including, but not limited to, State Anatomy Inspectors, the Head of School, Chief Anatomist, and Gross Anatomy Facility Manager.

NON-COMPLIANCE:

1. Any person in non-compliance with the code may be asked to leave the anatomy facilities or may be removed by UQ security.
2. Any non-compliance with the code may be grounds for referral to the SBMS Integrity Officer, Head of School, Executive Dean and/or Academic Registrar for official investigation under UQ's [3.60.04 Student Integrity and Misconduct policy](#).
3. Any breach of Queensland State Legislation may be referred to the Queensland State Police for prosecution under the Queensland [Criminal Code](#) [2].

REFERENCES

- [1] Transplantation and Anatomy Act, 1979 (Qld), Current from 1 July 2022. Queensland Government: Brisbane. <https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-1979-074> [Last accessed 12 Feb 2023].
- [2] Criminal Code Act, 1899 (Qld), Current from 12 September 2022. Queensland Government: Brisbane. <https://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/act-1899-009> [Last accessed 12 Feb 2023].