The hub for competitive translational and clinical cancer research
“U-CAN follows patients before, during and after treatment. This is a unique ambition that will renew the competitiveness of Swedish cancer research.”

TOBIAS SJÖBLOM, U-CAN PROGRAMME DIRECTOR
Our biobanks and databases shorten your way to success

The Swedish government has financed a unique project that is now available to researchers all over the world. Start to take advantage today!

A major hurdle in cancer research is diversity – we are all different, our tumours are different, and cancer cells within our tumours are different. Cancer research has taken many leaps forward the last decades but today’s quest is to level up. We need to collect huge amounts of data and biobank samples to propel today’s research. And the material needs to be easily accessible.

No single company or university, anywhere in the world, can do this alone. That is why the Swedish government decided in 2010 to let U-CAN build an infrastructure for the standardized collection of frozen tissue and blood samples from patients with prioritised cancer diagnoses. The goal was challenging: coverage of 30% of Sweden’s cancer patients.

Sweden’s healthcare system proved to be a keen co-worker and during 2010, U-CAN and the affiliated hospitals built the biobanking infrastructure. Standardised tracking systems and data collection across diagnoses were implemented during 2011. New diagnoses have been included, starting in 2012. From 2013 the material grew even further as more county councils in Sweden took part - and it is still growing. During 2016, U-CAN will promote translational cancer research in order to improve diagnosis, prognosis, treatment and ultimately outcome.

Today you are invited to access this growing source of knowledge.
A business proposal

FOR COMPANIES

U-CAN collaborates with Life science companies to undertake projects that are of interest to both companies and academia. We offer researchers and companies collaborations covering longitudinal information and biobanked material. The research-based pharmaceutical industry organization in Sweden has continuously been involved in the infrastructural process to ensure that industry needs are met. The commercial benefits may pave the way to new products, new services and even new companies.

FOR ACADEMIA

Both individual initiatives and large-scale collaborations are welcome to contact us. U-CAN is an ever growing and innovative partner. We do not only provide material and data – input from your ideas and proposals can help us develop to new levels.

THE IDEAL BUSINESS PARTNER

The Swedish government invested in U-CAN for the benefit of research, without any counterclaim. U-CAN is part of the first university of Scandinavia. We have been improving the world since 1477. You will not find a more reliable partner, and we dare to say that it will be hard to find any partner in knowledge that is as easy accessible.
“Access to high quality samples and detailed patient information is instrumental for progress in cancer research.”

ERIC LANDER, FOUNDING DIRECTOR, THE BROAD INSTITUTE OF MIT AND HARVARD
“With this unique collection of biological samples and data we will be able to do cutting edge cancer research.”

RICHARD PALMQVIST, U-CAN MANAGEMENT MEMBER
Our pathos

THE IDEA
U-CAN is the hub for competitive translational and clinical cancer research. Cancer research is carried out everywhere, but you cannot find many who enable research the way that U-CAN does. The continuously increasing volume of our longitudinal material, in combination with the level of excellence of the partaking researchers and co-applicant universities, define U-CAN as an extremely competitive entity at an international level.

OUR AIMS
• To become an international leader in terms of high-quality longitudinal biobanking of certain cancers.
• To create a database of easily-searchable longitudinal information on a large number of patients.
• To be the substrate for competitive translational and clinical cancer research.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS
U-CAN has a unique Ethical Permit to collect repeated blood and biopsy samples from patients with cancer. All patients have consented to participate and every new research project needs an approval from the regional Ethical review board for the intended use.
Nine diagnoses covered – and growing

Our aim is to facilitate longitudinal studies by providing both biobank samples and a wide range of associated data. So far, we have achieved that goal for nine diagnoses.
Nine diagnoses covered – and growing

COLORECTAL CANCER (1871)
HAEMATOLOGICAL TUMOURS (707)
LYMPHOMA (425)
PROSTATE CANCER (2629)
BRAIN TUMOURS (1431)
GYNECOLOGICAL CANCER (459)
NEUROENDOCRINE TUMOURS (232)
BREAST CANCER (526)
LUNG CANCER (47)

The number of patients included until June 2015
Our way of working

BROAD COLLABORATION, BROAD COLLECTION

A key to our success is the long-term collaboration between the participating universities, university hospitals, county councils, biobanks, regional cancer and biobank centers, and Science for Life Laboratory. Uppsala Biobank and Biobank North have created a successful infrastructure for biobanking and data management.

Through long-term collaboration and efficient organisation we are able to achieve our goals – to provide you with a high quality research base set over a long time and covering a large part of Sweden.

CONTINUOUS EVALUATION GUARANTEES QUALITY

Your success rests on a firm ground. The impeccable quality of provided data and biobank materials is ensured through several systems.

We are proud of our results. The first five-year summary of the international panels’ assessment is clear. U-CAN received the highest rating in the evaluated categories: performance, strategy, added value and research output.
“Two geographical access points cover patients from half a nation”

TONY HANSSON,
U-CAN ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR

U-CAN Partners
Your first step to a new level of cancer research

CONTACT US

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To learn more about U-CAN’s work and to get the latest news, please find us on the web.

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A GOOD START FOR SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS COLLABORATION IS UU INNOVATION:

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