

Taiwan Biobank – An Enabling Platform for Environmental Medicine

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The Taiwan Biobank is a national infrastructure with the aim of enabling biomedical research in Taiwan. As an enabling platform, it has two major tasks: (1) The establishment and maintenance of a general population cohort and (2) Collection of phenomic, genomic, epigenomic, metabolomic and other assorted -omic data from cohort biospecimens. Much of these resources are of potential interest to environmental medicine researchers, and some have started to utilize the biospecimens and information stored at the Taiwan Biobank in selected studies. However, the number of studies is still limited and utilize only a fraction of the information available. In this presentation, I will introduce available Taiwan Biobank resources of potential interest to the environmental medicine disciplines, ranging from physical biospecimens and survey questionnaire information (anthropometry, demographics, lifestyle, etc.) to various -omics data (genotypes, epigenomics, metabolomics, etc.). We hope that by providing a better understanding of the Taiwan Biobank to experts in the field, we may work together to fully realize its potential in environmental medicine research.