

# Biobank Qatar in call for volunteers

**RESEARCH.** Scientists are calling on Qatari nationals and long-term Qatar residents to serve as volunteer testers on a project to improve future generations' health.

They will help researchers test processes and technology developed for Biobank Qatar, which will store blood and urine samples from tens of thousands of people.

It is hoped the facility will advance understanding of the causes of major diseases and help researchers find new treatments.

Volunteers will be asked for feedback on the donation process to see

how it can be improved. The 'pre-pilot phase' is purely to test systems and samples will not be tested at this stage.

**BIOBANK QATAR** is a large medical research project run by Qatar Foundation and the Supreme Council of Health, with the assistance of Imperial College London.

By exploring why some people develop particular diseases and others don't, it will help scientists develop treatments and preventative strategies to benefit Qatar's population. Volunteers are asked to visit the

**“Biobank Qatar will help scientists develop treatments and preventative strategies to benefit the population”**

center's test clinic, based at Hamad Medical City Club Hotel.

The process should last about 90 minutes and will involve completing a questionnaire on a touchscreen or with a trained interviewer and undergoing simple measurements of factors such as height, weight and blood pressure.

Each question and test is optional and all answers and results will remain confidential.

To book an appointment to volunteer or for more information, call 4454 8351 or email [volunteer@biobankqatar.org](mailto:volunteer@biobankqatar.org).