

Biological Resource Center employees sent letter about possible exposure to deadly diseases



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Current and former employees at Biological Resource Center need to be tested for possible exposure to deadly diseases.

In January, FBI Agents [raided the Phoenix office \(http://www.abc15.com/news/region-phoenix-metro/central-phoenix/biological-resource-center-update-owner-fires-back-amid-investigation-into-body-donation-company\)](http://www.abc15.com/news/region-phoenix-metro/central-phoenix/biological-resource-center-update-owner-fires-back-amid-investigation-into-body-donation-company) and confiscated 22 bodies, computers, medical equipment and donors' personal files.

This week, the Maricopa County Department of Public Health warned all of the company's current and former employees they may have been exposed to diseases such as, Hepatitis B & C, HIV, and Tuberculosis.

The [letter \(http://media2.abc15.com/html/pdf/BRC.pdf\)](http://media2.abc15.com/html/pdf/BRC.pdf) sent to employees claims the CDC is investigating reports of infected cadavers that had undergone preparation and dissection procedures.

Biological Resource Center's consent form states all donors will be tested after death for infectious diseases. Positive cadavers are not eligible for donation.

The owner of Biological Resource Center, Steve Gore, tells ABC15 his employees are diligent about following universal safety precautions like wearing protective gloves and masks when handling cadavers.

Gore adds that the potential risk of infection is low.

When the company was in operation, it sent bodies to medical facilities for research and education.

At this time, it is unknown, if any of those facilities ever received contaminated cadavers.

Pam Cameron had planned to donate her body to BRC just like she had done with her husband when he passed away, in hopes of helping contributing to medical research.

Cameron says she was infected with Hepatitis when she was a teenager and was open with that information when she signed up to be a donor.

Cameron says BRC assured her she could still donate her body.

"It's not active now so they said they weren't worried about it." She said.

She is concerned about the letter to employees and worries about putting anyone's health at risk with her own health issues.

"That's not what medicine is about, it's to make you better not to help you die."

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The owner of Biological Resource Center has not been charged.

This federal investigation started in Detroit at a similar body donation business. A paper trail led investigators to biological resource center here in phoenix.

A medical research facility in Nevada is also included in the investigation.

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