Studies of interest

**Do you struggle with type 2 diabetes? (Docket # H-1162)**

- If so, you’re not alone. Today, more than 60 million people face the challenge of managing their type 2 diabetes. Combined with excess weight, this challenge can be difficult for anyone to overcome.
- Right now, doctors at UMass Memorial are accepting new participants for a clinical research study. The study is evaluating an investigational, non-surgical medical device that’s designed to decrease blood sugar.
- To qualify, you must be overweight and currently taking oral medication for your type 2 diabetes. If you join, you will receive study-related care at no cost. This includes a comprehensive support program overseen by a team of specialists.
- If you are interested in learning more about this research study, please call the Clinical Trials Unit @ 508-856-2800.

**Preventing Congenital Cytomegalovirus Infection (Docket # H-1800)**

CMV (pronounced cyto-mega-lo virus) is a common virus that is spread like a cold or flu. Approximately 1% of pregnant women will be infected with CMV for the first time while they are pregnant. If a woman is infected for the first time while pregnant, there is a 40% chance that the fetus will also get infected. These fetuses are more likely to be born earlier than expected, have low birth weight or small heads. Some of these babies will develop problems such as hearing loss and learning disabilities. Currently, there is no approved treatment for CMV in pregnancy. This research seeks to screen all pregnant women for CMV. If the screen is positive, study researchers want to see if giving pregnant women antibodies against CMV lowers the rate of CMV infection in their babies. Please contact Tiffany Moore Simas, MD at (508)334-6678 or email: TiffanyA.MooreSimas@umassmemorial.org.

**Hepatitis C in Pregnancy (Docket # H-3278)**

Hepatitis C is a virus that is spread primarily by blood to blood contact and can affect the liver of those who have it. Mothers can pass on the virus to their infants. The purpose of this study is to understand risk factors associated with mother to child transmission of Hepatitis C during pregnancy. We are seeking to screen all pregnant women for HCV. We will then ask all pregnant women with HCV to be part of a study that will follow them and their babies for a brief time after delivery. Some mothers without HCV will also be asked to be followed as a control group for comparison. Please contact Tiffany Moore Simas, MD at (508)334-6678 or email: TiffanyA.MooreSimas@umassmemorial.org.
**ALPS and ALPS Genetic (Docket # H-500)**

This research study will attempt to answer whether babies whose mothers received steroids when being delivered prematurely between 34-36 weeks, have a decreased need for oxygen. The research study will also see if steroids improve the chances that the baby will not get sick from other causes. Please contact Tiffany Moore Simas, MD at (508)334-6678 or Email: TiffanyA.MooreSimas@umassmemorial.org.

**Join the Health U. research study! (Docket # H-14575)**

Health U. is a weight loss research study for overweight teens/young adults ages 15-22 who have an intellectual disability. The study emphasizes healthy eating for weight loss, using interactive nutrition & physical activity education and parent support in ways that are fun and achievable! To be eligible to participate, teens/young adults must be: ages 15-22 with an intellectual disability; meet criteria for overweight or obesity; have medical clearance from a primary health care provider; have at least one parent/guardian who is willing to participate in the study. Classes begin Spring 2014 and are held on either Tuesday or Thursday 7:00 - 8:30p.m. For more information, please call Judith Ellen, Project Coordinator at 774-455-6540 or email us at healthu@umassmed.edu.

**6th Annual Complementary & Integrative Therapies Expo and Lecture Series**

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

UMass Medical School - 55 Lake Ave North, Worcester MA

Faculty Conference Room & Old Medical School Lobby

3 pm to 6 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME TO THIS FREE EVENT

Speak with local practitioners and receive personal complementary treatments to experience the therapies that are becoming increasingly integrated into modern medicine. For more information contact Mike Williams at Michael.Williams1@umassmed.edu

**April is Alcohol Awareness Month**

Did you know that drinking too much alcohol increases people’s risk of injuries, violence, drowning, liver disease, and some types of cancer? UMass encourages you to educate yourself and your loved ones about the dangers of drinking too much. The good news is, we can all do our part to prevent alcohol misuse or abuse. Are you concerned that you or someone you care about may be drinking too much? Click on the link below to learn more about alcohol abuse, take a survey, and find local resources for help if you need it. http://www.alcoholscreening.org/Home.aspx.

**April is Foot Health!**

The aim of Foot Health Awareness Month is to encourage everyone to be mindful that foot health has an overall impact on total body health. Help your aching feet by learning how to make them happy. An unsupported foot can cause systemic problems, such as sprains, strains, plantar fasciitis, and knee, hip and back pain. Here are some tips for healthy feet: https://www.apma.org/Learn/HealthyFeetTipsList.cfm?navItemNumber=535

**Have you seen the Conquering Diseases Website?**

https://www.umassmedresearchvolunteer.org/index.html