August 2014

Do you exercise regularly? (Docket # H00005027)

If you exercise regularly, please complete a survey by clicking on the link below: https://arcsapps.umassmed.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=b4iaDyG4rj If you would like additional information, please contact the research team at (508) 856-1534 or study@umassmed.edu.

Sustaining Remission of Psychotic Depression Study (Docket # H-14207)

Patients who are currently suffering from depression with irrational worries are invited to participate in a research study to determine how long people need to stay on an antipsychotic medication after they recover from their symptoms. Study participation will last up to 20 weeks and patients will receive a combination of an antipsychotic medication and an antidepressant medication. Patients must be: 18 to 85 years of age; experiencing symptoms of depression with irrational worries; and not be pregnant. Patients will receive study medication and study-related care at no cost. Qualifying patients will be eligible to participate in 9-month follow-up study. Compensation will be provided. Contact Chelsea Kosma @ 508-334-2812

Do you suffer from pain and opioid addiction (Docket # H-14337)

We are inviting people between the ages of 18-65 who have been diagnosed with both pain and opioid addiction to participate in a 12 week research study. Our intervention may help you reduce drug abuse and manage your pain better. If you are eligible, you will be assigned to a group-based intervention lasting 12 weeks at no cost to you. Participants will also be compensated. For more information, please email opstudy@hotmail.com or call 508-334-2153.

MRI with Children and Adolescents with Fragile X or Down Syndrome (Docket # H00002894)

The purpose of this study is to see whether we can find ways to help children undergo Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) without needing to sedate them. We are especially interested in finding ways to help children with developmental disabilities, such as Fragile X syndrome or Down syndrome have an MRI without any medication. We also would like to learn more about the features of the brains of children and adolescents aged 7-17 with Fragile X or Down syndrome.

Taking part in this study will involve 2 visits to UMass over a 6-week (1½ month) period. There will also be some activities for you to use at home with your child to prepare him or her for MRI. These activities such as watching a DVD about MRI or listening to a CD of MRI sounds, typically should take about 10 to 15 minutes. You can repeat these activities for as many days as you are able, and as often as you feel your child needs.

The MRI and all study-related evaluations will be done at no cost to you. Your participation in this study is voluntary. If you choose not to participate, it will not affect your child/dependent’s medical care. The risks and benefits of this study will be explained to you thoroughly before you agree to participate. If you would like more information about this study, please contact my research team – the Child and Adolescent Neurodevelopment Initiative (CANDI) at: (508) 856-5896.
A Multi-Center Clinical Trial of Allopurinol to Prevent GFR loss in Type 1 Diabetes
(Docket # H00004468)
The purpose of this study is to find out whether a medication called allopurinol can prevent kidney problems, in particular the loss of kidney function, in people with type 1 diabetes. For more information, please contact Celia Hartigan at 508-856-2800 or ClinicalTrialsUnit@umassmed.edu

Child Research Participants Needed (Docket #00001011)
The Child and Adolescent NeuroDevelopment Initiative (CANDI) Program in the Department of Psychiatry is conducting a brain imaging research study, and is looking for participants who are either typically developing children, or children with a Mood Disorder (with or without a history of trauma). Subjects need to be between the ages of 8 and 12. The study will consist of two visits at the Medical School, and will include a brief computer task, a diagnostic assessment, an interview with a clinician, and an MRI. Time and travel compensation provided. To learn more call Martha Castro at 774-455-4100, or email ChildResearch@umassmed.edu.

Do you have Type 2 diabetes and a history of heart disease?
(Docket # H00003138)
If you have Type 2 diabetes, DEVOTE is a cardiovascular outcomes study for insulin degludec in type 2 diabetics. The purpose of this trial is to compare the cardiovascular safety of the investigational product, insulin degludec, to that of the approved product, insulin glargine, in type 2 diabetic patients who are at least 50 years old and at risk for cardiovascular disease. The Principal Investigator of the study is John-Paul Lock, MD. For more information on the study, please contact Carol Ciccarelli at (508) 856-2828 or carol.ciccarelli@umassmed.edu

Is your child heading to college?
Has he or she received a meningococcal vaccine?
It’s August and everywhere you turn students are preparing to return to school. If you have a student heading for college, it is recommended that he or she receive a vaccination to prevent meningitis. The recommendation has been prompted by the fact that college students are at an elevated risk of contracting the disease due to the fact that they often live in small, crowded spaces. Additionally, they often engage in behaviors such as sharing items, kissing and smoking that can further increase their risk.

According to the National Meningitis Association, meningococcal disease is a serious, potentially fatal bacterial infection that strikes an average of 1,500 Americans annually, of whom 11% will die. In particular, adolescents and young adults account for 15% of all cases. The reality is that one out of seven cases among adolescents will result in death and that is why we must encourage parents to vaccinate their adolescent children, regardless of whether it is mandated by schools or universities. Among those who survive meningococcal disease, approximately 20 percent suffer long-term consequences, such as brain damage, kidney disease, hearing loss or limb amputations. While the CDC recommends routine immunization against meningococcal meningitis for all adolescents 11 to 18, as well as college freshmen living in dormitories, recent studies also indicate that there are close to 50% of teens who are not currently vaccinated against meningitis. But why?

Immunization against Meningitis is strongly recommended for all Massachusetts students from grade 7 and above. In fact, the vaccination is required by schools and only a signed waiver will exempt students who have not yet received the vaccine.

Talk to your doctor about how a meningitis vaccine, as well as other recommended vaccines, can protect your children prior to the upcoming school year. Be aware that vaccinations aren’t only for infants and young children. Take precautions for your teens as well.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h2-U1574OH0