Conquering Diseases
December 2014
Newsletter

Studies of interest

GeneSight Clinical Study  Docket # H-00004690
The study is trying to see if a genetic test is helpful in guiding clinicians’ selection of medications for depression. You might be eligible to participate in this study if:

- You are trying or have recently tried a psychiatric medication, and
- Your symptoms of depression are not improving despite at least 6 weeks on the treatment you are receiving, and/or
- You are unable to tolerate the medication and have discontinued it.

If you would like more information, please call Jessica 774-455-4045.

Looking for healthy volunteers for an Alcohol Research Study (Docket # H-14865)
We are looking at how occasional alcohol consumption affects the immune system. Volunteers may be eligible if they are between the ages of 21–60 and are in good health. The study requires two short study visits, one long study visit (about 5 hours), alcohol consumption, and blood draws. Subjects are compensated for their time. Contact the UMass Clinical Research Center at (508)856-2800.

Do you have symptoms of the flu? Put your Flu to good use!  (Docket # H00000007)
Most of the time, nothing good comes from having the flu. Except now. If you get the flu OR have the flu already, you can help evaluate an investigational medicine that may help end flu symptoms more quickly. To pre-qualify, you must: be between 18 and 80 years of age; have a fever of at least 100.4 F (if over 65 years of age, at least 100.0F); have 2 or more of the following symptoms – cough, sore throat, headache, nasal congestion, body aches and pains, or fatigue. All study related care is provided at no cost and payment for your time and travel will be provided. To learn more contact: Karen Gallagher-Dorval at 508-856-2857.

Study looking to enroll people who recently lost weight!  (Docket # H00001808)
Even highly motivated individuals find it difficult to keep weight off after they have lost it. The purpose of the study is to understand brain changes that accompany participation in wellness programs for keeping weight off. We will use MRI scans to study brain function in men and women 25-55 years old who have lost weight in the last year without surgery. Participants will be assigned to one of two programs to help them maintain weight loss and will be compensated for their time. Our goal is to gain a better understanding of the brain changes that lead to long-term success in keeping weight off, in the hope that this knowledge will assist in the development of improved treatments. Please call Sinead Sinnott, Research Coordinator at 508-856-2702 or email keepitoff@umassmed.edu to find out more information.

Do you exercise regularly? Please complete a survey!  (Docket: H00005027)
https://arcsapps.umassmed.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=b4iaDyG4rj
Volunteer to donate a small amount of blood that will be stored in our Biorepository and used by UMass researchers.

(Docket # H-12647)

For more information, stop by the Conquering Diseases office. We are open 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

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**Biorepository**

Responda preguntas sobre la actividad física y dieta para ayudarnos a entender o que la gente piensa acerca de el manejo de peso. Usted recibirá $35 en tarjeta de regalo (Target) por una entrevista que dura entre 60-90 minutos, con la posibilidad de ser invito(a) a una segunda entrevista. Las entrevistas se llevarán a cabo en el edificio Shaw, en el campus de UMass (419 Belmont Street, Worcester, MA).

Especificamente, estamos buscamos voluntarios que: son mayor de edad (18+ años), viven en la área de Worcester, MA, pueden leer y escribir en español, y (si son mujeres) no están actualmente embarazadas. Para más información, por favor contáctenos por email (tariana.little@umassmed.edu) o llámenos al 1-866-530-9794. En su mensaje, diganos su nombre, número, y disponibilidad para una entrevista.

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**Mood Disorder, Trauma, and the Brain - A Brain Imaging Research Study**

(Docket #H00001011)

The purpose of this study is a better understanding of the biology associated with mood disorders and trauma in children. Study participants must be between 8 and 12 years of age and have an IQ over 70. Children may be experiencing mood symptoms and may or may not have a history of trauma, or may be typically developing. Compensation will be provided for time and travel. For more information, contact CANDI at 774-455-4100 or ChildResearch@umassmed.edu. A PDF flyer is also available for this study.

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**Recruiting men to participate in a research study to develop & test a weight loss mobile app!**

(Docket # H00002340)

We are developing a mobile app designed to help people lose weight. We are looking for participants to help us to develop and test out our app. You may be eligible if you: are male, have an interest in losing weight, are over the age of 18, & use a Smartphone. Study participation will last for 1.5hrs. Compensation will be provided. Please call Effie at (508)856-1534 or e-mail Study@umassmed.edu

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**MRI with Children and Adolescents diagnosed with Fragile X and Down Syndrome**

(Docket # H-00002894)

The purpose of the study is to determine if we can find ways to help children undergo MRI with needing to be sedated. We are especially interested in learning ways to help children with developmental disabilities, such as Fragile X Syndrome and Down syndrome with having an MRI. We also hope to learn more about the features of the brains of children and adolescents aged 7-17 with Fragile X or Down syndrome. Who can participate?

- Males and females between 7 and 17 years old
- Diagnosis of Fragile X syndrome or Down syndrome
- Parent willing to assist with desensitization activities at home

For each visit to the office, a small payment will be offered to offset travel expenses. All study-related evaluations are provided at no cost. For more information, contact CANDI at 774-455-4100 or ChildResearch@umassmed.edu. A PDF flyer is available for this study.

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**National Hand Washing Awareness Week (December 1 – 7)**

Regular and thorough hand washing helps prevent the transmission of many diseases. Here are the

4 **Principles of Hand Washing and Hand Awareness:**

1. Wash your hands when they are dirty and BEFORE eating
2. DO NOT cough into your hands
3. DO NOT sneeze into your hands
4. Above all, DO NOT put your fingers into your eyes, nose or mouth