February 2015

Studies of interest

Are you a daily Facebook user, interested in losing weight? (Docket # H-00001484)

If so, you may be eligible to participate in a weight loss research study conducted by UMass Medical School. We are researching a program that includes nutrition and exercise counseling through a private Facebook group. You will be asked to post updates and interact with other study participants. Study participation will last for 12 weeks. Compensation will be provided. Interested please call Effie at (508)856-1534 or e-mail study@umassmed.edu

Liver Disease Clinical Study (Docket # H-00006124)

This study is enrolling adult men and women who are diagnosed with Non-alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH), a type of liver disease that is not caused by drinking alcohol. This study will evaluate the safety and effectiveness of a study drug Cenicriviroc (CVC) for treating patients with liver fibrosis due to NASH. Participants in this study may receive the study drug or a placebo. A placebo looks like the study drug but does not contain the study drug’s active ingredient. Participants in this study will take part for a maximum of 75 weeks (approximately 1.5 years).

Please contact: Trang Vo, trang.vo@umassmemorial.org, 774-441-8402
Donna Giansiracusa, donna.giansiracusa@umassmemorial.org, 774-441-7648

Study of Personality, Brain, and Substance Use (Docket # H-13454)

We are inviting male adolescents to participate in a study of their personality and how the brain relates to substance use. **Who is eligible?** "Male adolescents who speak English ages 14-24 years; "Currently receiving treatment or counseling for substance use OR have never abused any substances (control subjects); "Be able to provide parental consent for those under age 18 years old; "If deemed eligible, agree to go to the University of Massachusetts Medical School (UMMS) for a non-invasive MRI of the brain. **What does it mean to participate?** "You will be screened for personality, substance use issues, and eligibility to receive a MRI (for example, no metal can be in the body); "You will participate in an interview lasting 60 to 90 minutes; "At a later date, you will go to UMMS to complete some tasks while getting a MRI. The MRI lasts 45 minutes. The whole trip could take up to 90 minutes. **How do we compensate participants?** "Participants will receive a $15 gift card at the interview and a $50 gift card at the MRI scan. For more information please contact: Gina M. Vincent, PhD, 508-856-8727, Gina.vincent@umassmed.edu

Are you interested in knowing more about your bone health? (Docket # 00007374)

Healthy women ages 21-40 are invited to participate in a research study on the effects of exercise on bone health. To be eligible for the study you must be a normal healthy body weight, non-smoker, not be pregnant or planning a pregnancy in the next two years, and must have plans to be in the Worcester area for the next two years. A four minute commitment, five times per week for one year may be required. Compensation is provided. For more information call the Musculoskeletal Biomechanics Lab at 508-831-5338. Or e-mail at MBL@wpi.edu.
**Hepatic Dysfunction, Vitamin D status & Glycemic Control in Diabetes**
(Docket # H-00002866)

This study is open to enrollment for those 10 to 50 years of age who have type 2 diabetes, low vitamin D levels, and nonalcoholic fatty liver disease. The aim of this study is to determine whether vitamin D supplementation will promote liver health as well as blood sugar control in patients with type 2 diabetes who also have nonalcoholic fatty liver disease. The study will include a MRI scan to determine the amount of fat in the liver. Compensation for study participation is provided. Study Contact: Carol Ciccarelli, RN - (508) 856-2828 - carol.ciccarelli@umassmed.edu.

**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.

**Children’s Mealtime Study**
(Docket # H-1420)

The Children’s Mealtime Study located at the E.K. Shriver Center/UMass Medical School is looking for children with intellectual disabilities ages 3-8 to participate in a research study on children’s eating patterns, mealtime behaviors, and parent feeding practices. For more details and contact information, please see: contact Alyssa at 781-642-0147 or mealtimes@umassmed.edu http://umassmed.edu/shriver/recruitment/Childrens-Mealtime.aspx

**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.

**MRI Study of Brain Development**
(Docket # 14781)

We are looking for adults between the ages of 18-40 who smoke cigarettes. • If you qualify, you will undergo an MRI brain scan at UMass Medical School, which will take about one hour. • You will not be given any drugs. • You will be compensated financially for your time. If you are interested or would like more information, email Matt Thompson at Matthew.Thompson@umassmed.edu.