Studies of interest

**Novel Therapies in Alcoholic Hepatitis (Docket # H- 1487)**
This Observational Arm is a sub-study of the NIH Funded Severe Acute Alcoholic Hepatitis Study and will enroll subjects with damage to their liver due to alcohol. Subjects will provide specimens, blood, urine, stool and answer questionnaires. This is a one-time commitment or, if subjects are willing we will follow them over 6 months to assess status of their liver disease. Researchers hope to: 1. identify unique biomarkers for diagnostic and therapeutic decisions in alcoholic hepatitis, 2. document the natural history of alcoholic hepatitis, 3 create a data and tissue biorepository. For more information, please contact: Donna Giansiracusa, RN at 774-441-7648.

**The Depression Relapse Trial (Docket # H- 00007086)**
Individuals that are currently suffering from depression are invited to participate in a research study to determine the effectiveness and safety of vortioxetine in preventing relapse in depression for those subjects who respond to treatment with vortioxetine. Study participation will last up to 55 weeks and subjects will receive the study drug vortioxetine. Participants must be: 18 to 75 years of age; suffering from recurrent Major Depressive Disorder; experiencing current symptoms of depression; not be pregnant or have plans to become pregnant. Subjects will receive study drug and study-related care at no cost. Compensation provided. Contact Michelangela Yusif @ 774-455-4136.

**Non-Alcoholic Steato-Hepatitis (NASH) Study (Docket # H- 00008884)**
The REGENERATE Study: A phase 3 double-blind, randomized trial for subjects with Non-Alcoholic Steato-Hepatitis (NASH), a type of fatty liver disease. Eligible subjects will be randomly assigned to receive one of two different doses of Obeticholic Acid (OCA) 10 mg or 25 mg, or to placebo. There is an equal chance of being assigned to each of the 3 study groups. The study is long term, up to 6 years. All study drug(s) and assessments are paid for by the sponsor of the study- Intercept Pharmaceuticals. Liver biopsies are required. Contact: Donna Giansiracusa, RN at 774-441-7648 for more information.

**Black participants needed for survey (Docket # H00005882)**
Researchers at the University of Massachusetts Medical School are conducting a research study and are looking for black participants to complete a short online survey to let us know your interest on weight loss app designed specifically for the black community. The study will take 10-15 minutes. If you complete the survey, you will be entered in for a drawing for a $40 gift card. To participate in the study, please click here: [http://bit.ly/BRelaxSurvey](http://bit.ly/BRelaxSurvey) To learn more about the study, please email us at martinus.evans@umassmed.edu or call us at (508) 856-2209.
Severe Acute Alcoholic Hepatitis Study (Docket # H-14851)
NIH Study: Novel Therapies in Severe Acute Alcoholic Hepatitis study. This study will test the hypothesis that the syndrome of acute alcoholic hepatitis (AHH) results from severe inflammation and dysregulation of cytokines in the setting of alcohol exposure. Further, it is hypothesized that gut derived endotoxins and other bacterial products trigger inflammation and are a consequence of increased permeability with altered gut barrier function. This study is being done to evaluate whether a combination of medications, anakinra (interleukin -1 inhibitor) plus, pentoxifylline (to protect the kidney) plus zinc, a nutrient in the diet, can treat severe alcoholic hepatitis better or more safely than standard treatment with corticosteroids. Requires subjects with recent alcohol consumption>50 g/day for >6months, with MELD ≥20 and Maddrey ≥32. Contact: Donna Giansiracusa, RN at 774-441-7648 for more information or to refer a subject.

Are you interested in knowing more about your bone health? (Docket # 13-111)
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 healthy normal 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, three times per week for one year may be required. Compensation is provided. For more information call the Musculoskeletal Biomechanics Lab at 508-831-5338, e-mail at MBL@wpi.edu, or sign up at https://redcap.wpi.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=T489XE3MHT

Are you a woman aged 35 to 64 who smokes? (Docket # 15-311)
It is not clear how smoking affects bone health and function. Weaker bone increases risk for fracture, especially in aging women. Healthy women who smoke (35 to 64 years old), are invited to take part in a single-visit study using a low-dose x-ray to understand how smoking affects bone health. Compensation provided! For more information, please contact Joshua Johnson, PhD at 508-831-5338 or MBL@wpi.edu, or complete the survey. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z895LKL

Primary Biliary Cirrhosis Study (Docket # H-00006939)
The COBALT Study: A long-term study evaluating the effects of study drug, Obeticholic Acid (OCA), versus placebo on specific clinical outcomes that may be associated with Primary Biliary Cirrhosis. They may include changes in liver blood tests, changes in markers of inflammation, and other changes seen when the liver stops working effectively. Subjects have a 75% chance of receiving study drug and are expected to remain in the study for at least 2 years and up to 8 years. Participants in the study will be required to complete a screening visit to see if they are eligible to participate. Contact: Donna Giansiracusa, RN at 774-441-7648 for more information.

Research Leads to Cures...Be part of the Cure!
UMass Conquering Diseases Biorepository (Docket # H-12647)
Would you like to help find better treatments and cures for health conditions and diseases? If you have ever been seen at UMass Memorial, you can donate a blood specimen to our Biorepository! Please contact us to learn more: 508-856-2557 or ConqueringDiseases@umassmed.edu.