April 2017

Join us for the Parkinson’s Disease Lunch and Learn
UMassMemorial Dept of Neurology & Conquering Diseases are hosting a Lunch & Learn

Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2017
Time: 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Featured Speakers: Kara Smith, MD, Anindita Deb, MD, Anas Hannoun, MD, Naama Commander, ACNP, and Corey Leblanc, MSPT, DPT

Presentation Topics:
- Breaking News in Parkinson’s Research
- Finding Your Voice: Speech and Language in Parkinson’s
- Redefining Intimacy: Sexual Dysfunction in Women with Parkinson’s
- Fairlawn Rehabilitation Specialty Program for Parkinson’s

Lunch will be served and program is free of charge, but space is limited. Please call 508-856-2557 or email Janice.Weaver@umassmed.edu to register by Thursday, April 6, 2017.

Location: University of Massachusetts Medical School, Faculty Conference Room, 55 Lake Ave North, Worcester MA

Studies of interest

Influence of Diet on Microbiome and Inflammation (Docket # H00008033)
The gut microbiome is the community of microbes that inhabits the gastrointestinal tract and extracts nutrients from the food you eat. The composition of the microbiome can be inflammatory or anti-inflammatory. Inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD) such as Crohn’s or ulcerative colitis, are believed to be influenced by the composition of the microbiome. We have developed a diet designed to promote growth of beneficial microbes and reduce inflammation. This study is to test if adoption of this diet beneficially alters the microbiome, reduces inflammation and improves IBD symptoms. For more information, please contact Ana Maldonado-Contreras at 774-455-3796 or Ana.Maldonado@umassmed.edu.

Family Studies in Demyelinating Disorders (Docket # 14143)
The goal of this research is to build an inventory of human biological specimens (blood and stool samples) from individuals with neurologic disease to perform different research projects with. This may ultimately help us to understand what causes these diseases, and thereby lead to improved diagnosis and treatment. For more information, please contact Carolyn Griffin at 508-856-5006 or Carolyn.Griffin@umassmemorial.org.

UMass Clinical Research Volunteer Database (Docket # H-12562)
Would you like to volunteer for clinical studies currently being conducted at UMass? Join our Clinical Research Volunteer Database! Tell us what areas of research interest you. Your contact information will be kept in a secure database. If you qualify for any studies that need volunteers you will be contacted by the investigator directly, you can decide whether or not you would like to participate at that time. Now enrolling online at http://www.umassmed.edu/conqueringdiseases/ Please contact us to learn more: 508-856-2557 or ConqueringDiseases@umassmed.edu.
A pilot study of the Common Sensing Gocap prefilled insulin pen dose tracking cap  
(Docket # H00011644)

This study is a pilot study of the Common Sensing prefilled insulin pen dose tracking cap. We are testing a new device called Gocap. The Gocap is a Bluetooth cap for a Lantus or Apidra insulin pen that connects to an application on an Android smartphone. The cap helps to wirelessly track when the insulin is taken, and stores the information on the smartphone application. Patients will use the Gocap, as well as an Agamatrix Jazz Wireless 2 meter (a bluetooth meter that also connects to the smartphone application) for about 1 month, and will then be asked to return for a brief focus group. Participants must use a Lantus or Apidra insulin pen, and must be comfortable using a basic smartphone application. For more information, please contact Dan O’Brien at 774-443-7137 or Daniel.Obrien3@umassmed.edu.

Understanding Adolescent Knowledge and Attitudes toward Sugar Sweetened Beverages: Focus Groups among Worcester, MA Youth  (Docket # H00010993)

This is a focus group study that will try to understand adolescents’ knowledge, attitudes and behaviors regarding sugar sweetened beverages. For more information, please contact Christina Haughton at Christina.Haughton@umassmemorial.org.

A Phase 2, Randomized, Placebo-Controlled Multicenter Study to Investigate the Efficacy and Safety of Apremilast (CC-10004) for Treatment of Subjects with Active Ulcerative Colitis  
(Docket # H00011883)

This is a placebo-controlled clinical trial testing an experimental drug for the treatment of ulcerative colitis. For more information, please contact Anne Foley at 774-442-4098 or IBDClinicalTrials@umassmed.edu.

Diasome ISLE-1  (Docket # H00010984)

Participants in this study must have Type 1 diabetes for at least one year. This is a drug development study that consists of 16 research visits and 14 phone calls over approximately 7 months. The goal of this study is to test the safety and effectiveness of the study drug, Hepatic Directed Vesicle (HDV) Insulin Lispro. HDV insulin is made by adding the “HDV molecule” to commercial insulin (Humalog). The “HDV molecule” consists of a small amount of biotin (vitamin B7) attached to a few cholesterol molecules. The purpose of the HDV drug delivery technology is to bring an increased amount of the insulin to the liver’s cells, more like the body would normally do, in hopes of helping to improve the stabilization of blood glucose. For more information, please contact Celia Hartigan at 508-856-3676 or Celia.Hartigan@umassmed.edu.

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.

For more information, stop by the Conquering Diseases office. We are open 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Conquering Diseases Program
UMass Medical School Ambulatory Care Center
55 Lake Ave North
Worcester, MA 01655
508-856-2557
Toll-free 855-937-2067
www.umassmed.edu/conqueringdiseases/