Studies of interest

Living Healthy with Asthma (Docket # H00006718)
Asthma can be a challenging condition for patients. Controlling symptoms and sustaining good quality of life requires a great deal of self-care. To provide the best possible care of our patients, UMASS is recruiting patients with asthma to take part in a research study that compares two programs designed to increase asthma control and quality of life. If you are interested and eligible to participate in the study, you will be randomly assigned to one of the two programs. Each involves coming to eight weekly 2 ½ hour classes, one all-day class on a weekend day, and some time spent on home assignments. An assessment of your asthma control and lung function will be done 4 times: once before you start the classes, and again at 6, 12, and 18 months. The assessments involve completing questionnaires at home, using a peak flow meter for two weeks, and having lung function tests done in the pulmonary clinic. For more information, please contact Dante Simone at 508-856-8384 or Dante.Simone@umassmed.edu.

Research Study for Children and Adolescents with an Autism Spectrum Disorder or who are Typically Developing (Docket # H00001602)
What are we studying? To learn how social synchrony (the way we move our bodies unconsciously when interacting with people) differs in adolescents with ASD than those who are typically developing.

Who can participate? Males and females between the ages of 12 and 17 who have an IQ over 80 and are generally healthy, and children and adolescents with autism, Asperger’s Disorder, or Pervasive Developmental Disorder NOS.

How will participants be compensated? Compensation will be provided for time and travel.
For more information, contact CANDI at 774-455-4100 or ChildResearch@umassmed.edu.

Vocal biomarkers in Parkinson’s disease using a smartphone application (Docket # H00011523)
We are studying a new smartphone application for Parkinson’s disease. This study will involve Parkinson’s disease patients and healthy controls who do not have Parkinson’s disease or any other neurological condition. The application will use speech to monitor Parkinson’s disease symptoms. Participation will involve a single initial study visit and 4 weeks of daily use of the application at home. Participants must have a smartphone and must pass a brief cognitive test to be eligible. For more information, please contact Kara Smith at 774-455-4209 or Kara.Smith@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.
**Clinical Research Volunteer Database**

Participate in the Clinical Research Volunteer Database. The database is used for UMass researchers who are conducting IRB approved studies. (Docket # H-12562)

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### Want to QUIT smoking? (Docket # H 0001183)

Want to QUIT smoking? Do you own a smartphone? Are you between 21 – 65 years old? If yes, you may be eligible to participate in a research study. The goal of our research is to detect changes in brain activity related to using smartphone apps that may help you quit smoking. You will receive the phone app at no cost. You will be in the study for about one month. Please contact Hanif Benoit at 516-305-0428 or Hanif.Benoit@umassmed.edu.

### Chronic Pancreatitis Database (Docket # H00007544)

This study seeks to create a database of Chronic Pancreatitis patients. It will collect data such as laboratory data and questionnaire data regarding quality of life measures such as anxiety or addictions. For more information, please contact May Min at May.Min@umassmemorial.org or Boskey Patel at Boskey.Patel@umassmemorial.org.

### Changing Parent Behavior in Youth Anxiety Disorder: Overcoming Barriers to Treatment Response (Docket # H00007160)

Anxiety is the most common psychiatric problem for kids and teens. Effective therapies are available, but up to 40% of kids do not benefit fully from these treatments. We are testing a group therapy approach for parents of anxious children that helps parents change how they interact with their children in a way that will allow them to better help their children overcome their anxiety. We believe this approach will help kids and families feel better and help kids benefit more from individual therapy for their anxiety. For more information, please contact Lauren Venuti at 774-455-4100 or ChildResearch@umassmed.edu.

### Verlyx Arm of Novel Therapies in Alcoholic Hepatitis (Docket # H00011711)

This is a dose escalating study on the safety, pharmacodynamics and preliminary efficacy of VLX103 in the treatment of moderate alcoholic hepatitis. Recruitment will include 6 subjects in each of 3 study dosing arms. The first 6 subjects will receive 150 mg VLX103 daily for 14 days. At the end of this period, specific safety criteria will be assessed. Pre-established safety criteria will be used to decide if it is safe to continue to the next dosing level of 300 mg daily, based on tolerance of each individual study patient and the group as a whole. A second group of 6 subjects will receive 300 mg VLX103 daily for 14 days. After assessments as noted above a third group of 6 subjects will receive 450 mg VLX103 daily for 14 days. Follow-up visits will occur at Day 30 and Day 90 for all groups. Researchers will evaluate whether VLX103 has the potential to treat alcoholic steatohepatitis (fatty liver). For more information, please contact Monique Rinner at 774-442-1982 or Monique.Rinner@umassmemorial.org.

### Advanced Imaging to Quantify Joint Deformity in Rheumatic Disease (Docket # H00008930)

The purpose of this study is to collect one blood sample and to perform high resolution CT scans of the hands of rheumatoid arthritis patients, psoriatic arthritis patients and healthy controls. The information from this study will help researchers develop better tools to predict disease progression and disability in rheumatoid arthritis and psoriatic arthritis. The long term goal of this study is to improve the treatment of arthritis and the quality of life of patients with both conditions. For more information, please contact Tatiana Held at 508-334-0348 or email Tatiana.Held@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.