Conquering Diseases

January 2017

Newsletter

Studies of interest

**Diasome ISLE-1 (Docket # H00010984)**

The goal of this study is to evaluate an investigational additive to fast-acting pre-meal insulin in people with Type 1 Diabetes. This vitamin-based additive is designed to target insulin to the liver in order to improve overall blood sugar control. For more information, please contact Celia Hartigan at 508-856-3676 or Celia.Hartigan@umassmed.edu.

**The Memory Study (Docket #H00004119)**

This study seeks to see if Exenatide, an investigational drug when used in people with schizophrenia, protects the brain and improves memory and thinking in individuals with schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder. Participation in the study will last 24 weeks. You will be compensated for your time. For more information about the study, please call us at 508-856-MIND (6463) or email MIND@umassmed.edu.

**Human-Wildlife Relations in the Context of Wildlife Care and Rehabilitation (Docket # H00011449)**

Human co-existence with other living creatures is essential for healthy and sustainable ecosystems. Understanding human knowledge of and relationships with wildlife is important for fostering human-animal coexistence and developing effective and acceptable management plans. The overall purpose of this study is to examine the relationships between humans and wildlife in settings that strive to maintain nurturing yet natural human/wildlife boundaries: wildlife care, rehabilitation and sanctuary. Wildlife care/rehabilitation represents the interface in which humans interact with wildlife on a regular basis yet the interaction is purposefully designed to maintain the natural human-wildlife boundary in order to maximize wildlife independence. For more information, please contact Donna Perry at 508-856-3621 or DonnaJ.Perry@umassmed.edu.

**The Early Treatment Study (Docket # H00007426)**

The purpose of this study is to help understand if the experimental drug Paliperidone Palmitate or oral antipsychotic medication is better at preventing a worsening of your symptoms of schizophrenia or schizophreniform disorder which could cause an unfavorable outcome. Those who qualify will receive study-related medical exams, and lab tests at no charge. Compensation for your time and travel is available. For more information about the study, please call us at 508-856-MIND (6463) or email MIND@umassmed.edu.

**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/](http://www.umassmed.edu/conqueringdiseases/). Please contact us to learn more: 508-856-2557 or ConqueringDiseases@umassmed.edu.

---

**Biorepository**

Volunteer to donate a small amount of blood that will be stored in our Biorepository and used by UMass researchers.  
(Docket # H-12647)

**Birth Defects Prevention Month**

Women can increase their chances of having a healthy baby by reducing their risk of getting an infection during pregnancy.
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.

The Refractory Symptom Study (Docket # H00007610)
The goal of this 6-week research study is to assess the effectiveness of Sodium Nitroprusside, an FDA approved drug for management of hypertension, to improve symptoms of schizophrenia. We seek men and women ages 18-60 with a diagnosis of schizophrenia. Participants will be compensated for their time and travel, and all information will be kept private. For more information about the study, please call 508-856-MIND (6463) or email MIND@umassmed.edu.

A Randomized Controlled Trial of Vitamin D in Multiple Sclerosis (Docket # H00003468)
This research is being done to study the effectiveness of vitamin D when given as an add-on to standard therapy with Glatiramer Acetate (Copaxone) to people with multiple sclerosis. If you have not been on Copaxone or have not had more than 3 months of treatment, and most recent treatment occurred greater than one month ago, you may be eligible. For more information, please contact Carolyn Griffin at 508-856-5006 or email Carolyn.Griffin@umassmemorial.org.

The Symptom Study (Docket # H00011173)
The main goal of the study is to find out if the study drug, AVP-786, when taken in combination with a class of medications used for treating schizophrenia, improves residual symptoms of schizophrenia and impairments in cognitive function associated with schizophrenia. This study will also find out how safe the study drug is and how well the body accepts the study drug. Compensation for your time and travel is available. For more information about the study, please call us at 508-856-MIND (6463) or email MIND@umassmed.edu.

Multiple Sclerosis study (Docket # H00010353)
An open label study to evaluate the effectiveness and safety of Ocrelizumab in patients with relapsing remitting Multiple Sclerosis who have had a sub-optimal response to an adequate course of disease-modifying treatment. The purpose of this study is to see if Ocrelizumab (study drug) will stabilize, or potentially improve the signs and symptoms of your Multiple Sclerosis (MS). If you have had MS for 10 years or less and have tried at least 1 other MS medications you may be eligible. For more information, please contact Carolyn Griffin at 508-856-5006 or email Carolyn.Griffin@umassmemorial.org.

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