Featured Fall Research

Featured Industry Sponsored Study: MK-0954

**Purpose:** To reduce blood pressure (BP) in hypertensive children ranging in age from 6 months to 6 years.

**Inclusion:**
1. Patient is male or female from 6 months to 6 years of age
2. Systolic and/or diastolic blood pressure ≥95\textsuperscript{th} percentile based on gender, height and age
   - mean systolic blood pressure ≥90\textsuperscript{th} percentile if patient has comorbidities or evidence of end organ damage
   - Patient has a GFR of <30 ml/min/1.73m\textsuperscript{2} as determined by the Schwartz Formula

**Recruitment Timeline:** Ongoing

Featured Investigator Initiated Study: MPA GAS study

**Purpose:** To understand the pharmacogenetic factors that influence Mycophenolic acid (MPA) related side effects (specifically leucopenia) and how those genetic factors interact with medications or viral illnesses that the patient may be exposed to.

**Inclusion:**
1. Kidney transplant recipients aged birth (≥ 8 kg) to 21 years who experienced MPA-related leucopenia and/or neutropenia during the first year of treatment with MPA
2. Leucopenia and/or neutropenia prompt dose reduction and/or discontinuation of MPA

**Recruitment Timeline:** Ongoing and expected to be completed by beginning of 2010

News You Can Use

**New Guidance about Investigator Responsibilities from the FDA**

The Guidance for Industry on Investigator Responsibilities – Protecting the Rights, Safety, and Welfare of Study Subjects provides an overview of the responsibilities of a person who conducts a clinical investigation of a drug, biological product, or medical device. It also clarifies for investigators and sponsors FDA’s expectations concerning the investigator’s responsibility to (1) supervise a clinical study in which some study tasks are delegated to employees or colleagues of the investigator or other third parties and to (2) protect the rights, safety, and welfare of study subjects.

You can access the full document through [here](#).

**Helpful Links**

- Emory Children’s Research Office
- NIDDK Research Centers for Excellence in Pediatric Nephrology
- The pump handle– a water cooler for the public health crowd
Research Matters

The office for Clinical Research (OCR) hosts Research Matters educational events to update the Emory clinical research community in new regulations, policies, and procedures. The Research matters events are held on both the Emory and Grady Campuses.

Attendees to Research Matters events are eligible to receive up to 1.5 of CME hrs through EUSOM office of Continuing Education (OCME).

Calling All Investigators....

CHOA is currently welcoming input from investigators at CHOA and Emory to Phase II of the Research Strategic Plan. In this phase, a more formal plan defining areas of emphasis will be constructed that will define new Research Centers of Excellence and Research Programs.

More information is available at: http://www.pedsresearch.org/strategicplaninput.html

Upcoming Research

Hope as a Resource in Chronic Childhood Illness

Purpose: This qualitative research is expected to provide a foundation for a critical understanding of how children conceptualize hope in the context of a chronic illness. In particular, the research will clarify what practices of care are experienced by children as nurturing hope; such clarification can provide guidance for the development of new (or more intentional) supportive practices of multidisciplinary care from a spiritual perspective that are grounded in and responsive to the lived experience of children.

The success of any of our protocols depends on the support of all of our nurses and staff. Please take the time to review the particular research protocols highlighted in this issue and recommend any eligible patients to Margo Kamel, mkamel@emory.edu. Also, please feel free to make any suggestions that you feel will facilitate the conduct of any research project.

Thank you for all of your help and Happy Holidays!

Sincerely, Margo Kamel