



## Conquering Diseases Programs



### Conquering Diseases March 2015 Newsletter

**March 2015**

#### Save the Date: March 16 Colorectal Cancer Symposium

March is Colon Cancer Awareness Month. Every year, more than 150,000 new cases of colorectal cancer are diagnosed in the United States. Up to 80% to 90% are preventable. *Yes, preventable.* With a screening colonoscopy, doctors can find and remove polyps before they become cancerous. Learn about risk, prevention, and treatment at our free event, "[The How, Why, and What Do I Do Now? of Colon Cancer](#)," March 16, 4:30 to 8 pm in the Faculty Conference Room, University Campus. Light dinner provided; nursing contact hours have been applied for. Register today by clicking on the link above or call 508-334-8195 for more information.

#### Studies of interest

##### Research Study Looking for women with children 0-5 years old to complete short anonymous survey (Docket # H-00005678)

We are looking for women with children aged 0-5 years to complete a short anonymous online survey to provide feedback on an online weight loss program designed specifically for women with young children. The study will take 10-20 minutes. No compensation. To participate in the study, please go to: <http://tinyurl.com/UMassMomSurvey>

##### Are you a man aged 50-74 & interested in learning more about prostate cancer screening? (Docket # H-00005845)

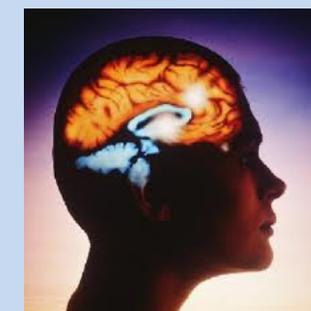
We are looking for men age 50-74 to participate in a research study about prostate cancer screening. This study is trying to learn how patients make choices about prostate cancer screening. We would like your opinions on materials we and others have created that give information on the PSA screening for prostate cancer. We will show you two sets of materials and ask you to share your thoughts on them. There will be one study visit that will take about 1 hour. We will compensate you \$20 and pay for parking or bus transportation. If interested please contact Marcela Hayes 774-442-6752 or [psa.decisions@umassmed.edu](mailto:psa.decisions@umassmed.edu)

##### Are you a woman aged 40-49 & interested in learning more about breast cancer screening? (Docket # H-00005845)

We are looking for women age 40-49 to participate in a research study about mammography screening. This study is trying to learn how patients make choices about breast cancer screening. We would like your opinions on materials we and others have created that give information on mammography screening for breast cancer. We will show you two sets of materials and ask you to share your thoughts on them. There will be one study visit that will take about 1 hour. We will compensate you \$20 and pay for parking or bus transportation. If interested please call Marcela Hayes @ 774-442-6752 or email [mammo.decisions@umassmed.edu](mailto:mammo.decisions@umassmed.edu)

##### Tardive Dyskinesia Study (Docket # H-00006334)

We invite those who are experiencing involuntary movements in their face or other parts of their body – and suffer from schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder – to see if they may qualify for the Kinect 3 Study. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness, safety, and tolerability of an investigational oral medication for tardive dyskinesia. Those who qualify will receive study medication, study-related medical exams, and lab tests at no charge. In order to participate in the study, individuals must be evaluated by a study doctor and meet certain criteria including, but not limited to: male or female aged 18 to 85 years, have clinical diagnosis of schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder, have a clinical diagnosis of Tardive Dyskinesia (TD). **Contact Info:** Radhika Natarajan (508) 856-8323 [Radhika.Natarajan@umassmed.edu](mailto:Radhika.Natarajan@umassmed.edu)





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](http://www.umassmed.edu/conqueringdiseases)

**Biorepository**

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

For more information, stop by the Conquering Diseases office. We are open 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM



**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)



**Exenatide Weekly Injection as an Adjunctive Treatment in Patients with Schizophrenia (Docket # H-0004119)**

The goal of this study is to determine if weekly injections of exenatide can improve symptoms of schizophrenia. Some recent studies suggest that exenatide can reduce inflammation, which may protect the brain and improve memory and thinking. Some studies have shown that drugs that reduce inflammation can help improve symptoms of schizophrenia when taken alongside other antipsychotic medications. Eligibility: people ages 18-65 that have schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder and currently take medications for schizophrenia. **Contact Info:** Radhika Natarajan (508) 856-8323 [Radhika.Natarajan@umassmed.edu](mailto:Radhika.Natarajan@umassmed.edu)

**Schizophrenia and Alcohol Study (Docket # H-00005852)**

The purpose of the study is to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication in treating schizophrenia in individuals ages 18 to 65 years old who use alcohol. Each patient who qualifies will receive investigational medication, study-related medical exams, and laboratory tests at no cost. Eligibility: men and women 18 to 65 years old who have had a recurrence of schizophrenia symptoms within the last 6 months and have experienced at least 10 drinking days in the last month. **Contact Info:** Radhika Natarajan (508) 856-8323 [Radhika.Natarajan@umassmed.edu](mailto:Radhika.Natarajan@umassmed.edu)

**Clozapine for Cannabis Use Disorder in Schizophrenia (CLOCS) (Docket # H-00001171)**

Researchers at the Psychotic Disorders Research Program in the Department of Psychiatry at UMass are looking for volunteers for an NIH-funded research study involving schizophrenia and marijuana use. We are studying whether an FDA-approved drug, clozapine, can reduce marijuana use in individuals who suffer from schizophrenia and ongoing marijuana use. Eligibility: people age 18-55 who suffer from schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder; and meet the criteria for marijuana abuse or dependence. Exclusion criteria include: people who suffer from any substance abuse disorder other than caffeine, nicotine, and alcohol abuse disorder or who currently receive treatment with clozapine or risperidone or suffer from a medical condition in which treatment with clozapine or risperidone would be impractical or unsafe. People in the study will be compensated for their time. All information is kept private. **Contact Info:** Radhika Natarajan (508) 856-8323 [Radhika.Natarajan@umassmed.edu](mailto:Radhika.Natarajan@umassmed.edu)

**Investigational Drug Study for Adolescents with Schizophrenia (Docket # H-00005591)**

The purpose of the study is to evaluate whether NaBen (Sodium Benzoate) is an effective add-on treatment for adolescents with schizophrenia. Who can participate? Adolescents between 12 and 16 years of age who have been diagnosed with schizophrenia. Participants need to be on a stable antipsychotic treatment for their schizophrenia and still be experiencing residual symptoms. How will participants be compensated? Compensation will be provided for time and travel. For more information, contact CANDI at (774) 455-4100.

**Investigational Drugs for Adolescents & Adults with Fragile X Syndrome (Docket # H-00003719)**

The purpose of the study is to evaluate whether an investigational drug is safe and effective for the treatment of symptoms of Fragile X Syndrome. Who can participate? Males between 14 and 40 years of age who have a diagnosis of Fragile X Syndrome. Participants need to exhibit behaviors such as repetitive or stereotyped behaviors, anxiety, social withdrawal, sensory over-sensitivity, or cognitive difficulties. How will participants be compensated? A small payment will be offered to offset travel expenses. For more information, contact CANDI at (774) 455-4100.

**Are you a daily Facebook user, interested in losing weight? (Docket # H-00001484)**

Recruiting daily Facebook users interested in losing weight to participate in a 12-week UMMS weight loss study. You will be asked to post updates and interact with other study participants. Please call (508)856-1534 or [study@umassmed.edu](mailto:study@umassmed.edu) . Compensation is provided.

**Research Leads to Cures... Be a Part of the Cure (Docket # H-12647)**

UMassMemorial patients are invited to donate a small amount of blood to the Conquering Diseases BioRepository. Your specimen will be used for clinical research studies. Please contact us to see if you qualify and to schedule a time to draw your blood. For more information: 508-856-2557 or [ConqueringDiseases@umassmed.edu](mailto:ConqueringDiseases@umassmed.edu).