

The Brain and HIV

CNS Cellular Immunity during AIDS

Brief Description: This study will look at how the immune system fights HIV in the brain (central nervous system, CNS), and how this compares with what happens in the blood. This study involves one lumbar puncture (also called a “spinal tap”). Participants will also have several blood draws. Participants who are HIV-positive will be asked to have a special brain scan (called an MRI), and do some pen-and-pencil tests. The study does not involve any medications.

Purpose of this Study: To understand how the immune system fights the virus in the brain during HIV infection.

Requirements to Enter Study:

- Acceptable screening blood tests.
- HIV-positive (some HIV-negative volunteers may participate).
- At least 18 years of age.
- Other requirements which a study nurse will discuss with you.

Duration of Study: About 3 weeks.

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