Your community needs your help!

Consider joining a new initiative called www.ResearchMatch.org today! ResearchMatch.org is a new registry that may help ‘match’ you with research studies that are of interest to you.

Why should I consider joining?

Research affects our everyday lives – ranging from the medicine we take to the health of our families. Becoming a research participant is a gift that you can give of yourself to benefit your family, your community and the health of people everywhere. All too often important research studies end early because there are too few research participants in the study. At the same time, people are looking for research studies but are having a difficult time finding them. As a result, important questions that can affect the health of our community go unanswered. ResearchMatch.org helps this problem by connecting people who want to participate in studies get connected with the research studies that may be a good ‘match’ for them through its secure, online matching tool.

How do I join?

Go to www.researchmatch.org. It takes between 5-10 minutes to register and anyone residing in the United States can join.

You will first answer some basic information about who you are and then have the option of entering in some information about your health.

There is no cost to register as a ResearchMatch.org Volunteer and all ages and backgrounds are welcome to register. A parent, legal guardian or caretaker may register someone under the age of 19 or an adult that may not be able to enter in their own information. When you become a ResearchMatch.org Volunteer, you join a pool of thousands of other people across the country who are willing to hear about studies that might be a good fit for them.

Who developed ResearchMatch.org?

Researchmatch.org is a collaborative project, led by the Vanderbilt Institute for Clinical & Translational Research, (Continued on Page 2)
Thank You Volunteers...

Each year 2.3 million individuals participate in 80,000 clinical trials! These volunteers contribute to greater scientific understanding and move research closer to new treatments and potential cures for a wide range of illnesses.

At Vanderbilt University Medical Center and Meharry Medical College, volunteers can participate in on-going studies in a large variety of areas such as:

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Dr. Stephen Kim would like to thank the 24 volunteers who participated in the Antibiotic Resistance of Conjunctiva and Nasopharynx Evaluation (ARCaNE) study. The use of antibiotics has resulted in many types of microbes (organisms that cause infection) developing resistance to those antibiotics and no longer working. The ARCaNE study found that microbes do develop antibiotic resistance even when given as eye drops.

Dr. Shelagh Mulvaney recently led a team of researchers in a study of an Internet program, called YourWay, to improve self-care in adolescents with type 1 diabetes. After separating 72 adolescents into two groups - the Internet program or 2-usual care, they found the use of the internet program was related to improved blood glucose levels, diabetes problem solving, and self-care. Thank you volunteers!

Researchers at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and Meharry Medical College are looking for volunteers to help answer questions about all types of medical problems and diseases. Volunteer today and you can help make a difference!

(ResearchMatch from page 1)

and involves over 54 other institutions associated with the Clinical & Translational Science Awards (CTSA) Consortium (www.ctsaweb.org) including both Vanderbilt and Meharry. The CTSA are supported by a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The high level of collaboration speaks to the widespread challenge that researchers experience when looking for people to participate in their research studies.

What will happen when I join?

After you register, your anonymous ResearchMatch.org Volunteer profile will become part of a national pool. Approved researchers will search this pool by entering in their study criteria (age, gender, condition of interest, etc.) to find possible matches for their studies. They will then send a message through ResearchMatch.org about their study to the ResearchMatch.org Volunteers who appear to be a good fit for their study. While the researcher knows that you may be a good match for their study, they do not know who you are until you allow them to see your contact information. If the study is something that you wish to learn more about, then they can allow ResearchMatch.org to release your contact information to the researcher so they can be in direct contact about the study. And that is how the ResearchMatch.org “match” is made.

For general questions, please email ResearchMatch.org at info@researchmatch.org

Register at www.ResearchMatch.org. Through research, YOU can make a difference!

If you are a Vanderbilt or Meharry researcher who is interested in using ResearchMatch.org as a potential recruitment tool for your study, please register as a researcher here: https://www.researchmatch.org/researchers/
Research Terms

Crossword Clues (Use Terms Below)

Down
2 To give approval
3 Not named or identified
4 Website used around the world to find research studies for any medical condition
7 Contact a research______ if you have questions about participating in research
8 Newsletter for research participants
9 Giving the same result on successive trials
12 Logically correct
16 Entity to protect the welfare of human subjects (abbr.)
18 A Federal agency responsible for protecting public health (abbr.)
20 A substance added to a vaccine to enhance its immune-stimulating properties

Across
1 Researchers can search this pool to find volunteers for their studies
5 Unknown to investigator, participant or both
6 The scientist in charge of a research project (abbr.)
10 Group of participants used to check, test or verify results
11 Haphazard
13 Private or secret
14 Studies can be published in one of these
15 Harmless
17 Sugar pill
19 A research study in human volunteers to answer specific health questions

Word Search and Crossword Terms

Adjuvant FDA
Advocate IRB
Anonymous Medical Journal
Benign PI
Blinded Placebo
Clinical trial Random
Clinicaltrials.gov Reliable
Confidential Research Connections
Consent ResearchMatch
Control Valid
FAQs

Q.
I have been thinking about enrolling in a research study, but would like to take the consent form home to talk to my family and friends about the study before I decide. Is there a time limit between when I learn about a study and when I have to enroll?

A.
No, you are able to take as much time as you need to decide. If any changes are made to the study between the time you met with the study staff and the time you decide to enroll, the study staff will review the new consent form with you, explain the changes, and ask you to sign the new form.

Q.
I just finished taking part in my first research study. How long will it take to get my compensation?

A.
You should receive your compensation within 2-4 weeks of completing the study. If you have not received your check after 4 weeks, please contact the study staff so they can see where the check is in the process. If you are still waiting after 6-8 weeks, you may contact the Research Subject Advocate at (615) 322-2918 for assistance.

Q.
What happens if I enroll in a study and I am not able to finish?

A.
Taking part in a research study is voluntary and you may stop at any time without affecting your health care or other rights. While the study staff would like you to complete the study, they know some people may need to end early for a number of reasons.

Want to Be In the Know?

Click or go to the link below to sign up for the email notification distribution list and be the first to know about new studies at Vanderbilt and Meharry. By joining the distribution list, you will also automatically receive the latest issue of the Research Connections newsletter.

Research.notifications@vanderbilt.edu

Invite friends and family to join you! Anyone interested in learning more about research at Vanderbilt University Medical Center and Meharry Medical College can join.

Research Advocates

If you have a research-related question you would like answered, please contact a research advocate:

Vanderbilt: 
Jan Zolkower
(615) 322-2918
jan.zolkower@vanderbilt.edu

Meharry: Corey Jones
(615)327-6820
cjones@mmc.edu

Research Connections is a quarterly publication for the research community. If you would like to submit ideas for an upcoming issues or if you would like to be added to our distribution list, please email Research Support Services at research.support.services@vanderbilt.edu.

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