Learn more about current research opportunities

IU Liver Research:

http://medicine.iupui.edu/iuliverresearch/

Translational Research and Evolving Alcoholic Hepatitis Treatment (TREAT) Consortium:

http://alcoholichepatitis.org/

Other opportunities at Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis:

https://www.indianactsi.org/partres/clinicaltrial

We encourage you to ask your IU doctor about current research opportunities at your next visit!



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Liver Research at the IU School of Medicine

Where Patients and Physicians
Work Hand-in-Hand to
Advance Treatments for Liver
Diseases

Patient and Caregiver Information Guide

About IU Liver Research

Our Liver Research group at Indiana University believes clinical research is vital to advance the understanding and treatment of many liver disorders. For instance, through clinical research we gain insights and answers about the safety and effectiveness of drugs and other treatments. Groundbreaking scientific advances in the present and the past were possible only because of the active voluntary participation of patients and their families. Research opportunities offered by our group range from observational studies to clinical trials. Studies can differ by duration of time, number of study visits, and whether or not an experimental drug is used.

The liver research group includes seven physicians and several clinical research nurses and coordinators. We have many faculty members with continual federal funding, and we publish more than 100 full-length papers each year in high-quality medical journals. Our faculty members serve as editors and members of many respected biomedical journals. We also have faculty members who serve on study sections and on the boards of many national and international research organizations.



Types of Research Studies

CLINICAL TRIALS

There have been several recent breakthroughs in the liver field leading to newer treatment options for different liver disorders. These agents are currently under study through various phases of drug development. These phases include Phase 1 (dose finding), Phase 2 (safety and initial effectiveness), Phase 3 (effectiveness and safety), and Phase 4 (post marketing). Completion of two studies with



positive results is often needed before approval by regulatory authorities.

OBSERVATIONAL, DATABASE, AND REPOSITORY STUDIES

Our research team also conducts several observational, database, and repository studies. These studies collect biological samples and/or data from participants that can be used to learn more about different liver diseases without requiring participants to receive any specific treatment or intervention. The results from these studies can used to better understand genetic or environmental factors that may play a role in liver disease development or progression. Lastly, samples collected can be used to help find biomarkers that may be targeted for drug development in the future.

AREAS OF RESEARCH

- Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD)
- Non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH)
- Hepatic adenoma
- Autoimmune hepatitis
- Liver biopsy tissue collection
- Primary biliary cholangitis (PBC)
- Primary sclerosing cholangitis
- Drug-induced liver injury
- Alcoholic liver disease and alcoholic hepatitis
- Cirrhosis
- Fibroscan studies

QUESTIONS ABOUT RESEARCH PARTICIPATION

Although many patients have a basic understanding of clinical research, certain concerns exist that keep patients from participating in clinical trials. These issues include lack of awareness, fear of side effects, assignment to placebo arm, confusion about insurance coverage, time commitment, and travel to the research center. Despite these worries, we have had great success with motivated patients who want access to new treatments and to help advance science. Additionally, most clinical trials reimburse for cost of travel and parking. Your IU doctor and our research staff are happy to help answer any questions or concerns you have about research participation.