

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDY WILL COMPARE PROSTATE DISEASE DRUGS

DALLAS — March 11, 1994 — Two drugs approved for treatment of benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH) will be tested individually and in combination in a federally funded clinical research trial at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center.

UT Southwestern's clinical trial is part of a pilot study at five outstanding prostate disease research centers around the nation, said Dr. Claus Roehrborn, assistant professor of surgery in the Division of Urology at UT Southwestern and investigator on the clinical trial. The pilot study, involving 25 to 35 men at each site, will determine the feasibility of a five-year, multi-center trial involving thousands of men.

Participants will be given either doxazosin, an alpha-blocker, finasteride, a 5-alpha reductase inhibitor, both drugs or a placebo.

"Response to treatment usually is measured by improvement of symptoms," Roehrborn said. "This is the first study to look at whether these drugs prevent the disease from becoming worse over time. We will be monitoring and attempting to document the impact these treatments have individually and in combination on the cell biology of the prostate and on bladder function."

BPH — enlargement of the prostate — is not prostate cancer and is not known to lead to prostate cancer. More than half of all men over 60 and as many as nine out of 10 men in their 70s and 80s have it.

The pilot study is funded by the National Institutes of Health and endorsed by the American Urological Association.

(More)

BPH CLINICAL TRIAL

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Men over 50 who are experiencing symptoms of BPH may be eligible to participate in the research. BPH symptoms include frequent urination, getting up at night to urinate, inability to delay urination, difficulty in starting to urinate and a slow urine stream.

For more information about participating in the study, call UT Southwestern at (214) 648-6781.

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