

SOUTHWESTERN NEWS

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PATIENTS WANTED FOR CLINICAL TRIALS AT UT SOUTHWESTERN

DALLAS – March 17, 2004 – Researchers at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas are seeking patients to participate in medical studies on melanoma, brain injury and breast cancer.

All clinical trials are approved by UT Southwestern's Institutional Review Board, which reviews them for benefits, risks, side effects and informed consent.

Breast cancer

Patients are needed at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas to participate in a study of two drugs commonly used to fight breast cancer. The study, called STAR, is the largest North American trial for breast cancer prevention ever undertaken. It aims to determine if raloxifene can prevent breast cancer better and with fewer side effects than tamoxifen. Participants should be postmenopausal women at increased risk for breast cancer due to a family history of breast cancer and a combination of personal medical factors. Participants will be randomly assigned to receive either tamoxifen or raloxifene daily with regular examinations until the trial results are known. For more information, call 214-648-7042.

Skin cancer

UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas is participating in two national trials to determine the effectiveness of a melanoma treatment. The purpose is to evaluate the potential of an immunotherapy to increase the overall length of survival of patients with advanced melanoma. Eligible participants include patients with melanoma metastasized to regional lymph nodes (Stage III) or distant sites (Stage IV) who have been rendered free of disease by surgery or gamma knife treatment. For more information, call 214-648-7030.

Brain injury

Researchers at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas are seeking patients who have suffered a traumatic brain injury with resulting persistent cognitive deficits. The study is designed to evaluate the safety and efficacy of an investigational medication in treating attention or memory impairment from a traumatic brain injury. To be eligible, patients must be 18 to 50 years of age, have experienced a traumatic brain injury at least 12 months ago or longer and must be currently experiencing persistent attention and/or memory deficits. Participants will receive study-related medical evaluations and investigational medication at no cost for the duration of the trial. For more information, call 214-648-7613.

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For information about other clinical trials at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, visit <http://www3.utsouthwestern.edu/patient/clntrial.htm>

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