The VCRC is a part of the Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network, which is supported by the U.S. National Institutes of Health. Visit us online: www.RareDiseasesNetwork.org/vasculitis

By participating in the Longitudinal Study you will help researchers better understand Takayasu’s Arteritis and work toward developing more effective and safer therapies.

What is a longitudinal study?
A longitudinal study follows patients over an extended period of time to look at changes in individuals. Information is collected on a regular basis and studied by research scientists to find new ways to track disease and predict who will respond to different treatments, to study the genetics and causes of vasculitis, to understand how best to treat patients, and much more.

The Longitudinal Study is not a drug study but it may lead to development of new treatments.

What does this study involve?
If you are eligible and decide to participate in this study, you will be asked to come to a clinical center on a regular basis to meet with a physician, to answer medical questions, and to provide blood and urine samples. The study will last for several years.

Who qualifies?
You must have a confirmed diagnosis of Takayasu’s Arteritis and be willing to be seen for study visits at one of the VCRC study sites.

What is a study visit?
During a study visit, you will meet with a study physician, a study coordinator, and a research nurse. Medical information will be collected and a physical exam conducted. The research nurse will collect blood and urine specimens from you. On some study visits, you will only have blood and urine collected and will not meet with the physician or study coordinator (these visits may be shorter).

Where will the study take place? How do I participate?
If you are interested in participating in this study or would like additional information, please contact a study coordinator at the clinical center most convenient for you:

**Boston University School of Medicine, Boston, Massachusetts**
Study Coordinator: Zarabeth Golden, E-mail: zgolden@bu.edu
Tel: 617-414-2507
Principal Investigator: Peter A. Merkel, MD, MPH

**Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Cleveland, Ohio**
Study Coordinator: Katherine Tuthill, E-mail: tuthillk@ccf.org
Tel: 216-444-9606
Principal Investigator: Carol A. Langford, MD, MHS

**Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Rochester, Minnesota**
Study Coordinator: Kathleen Mieras, E-mail: mieras.kathleen@mayo.edu
Tel: 507-284-9187
Principal Investigator: Ulrich Specks, MD

**Johns Hopkins Vasculitis Center, Baltimore, Maryland**
Study Coordinator: Cynthia Bethea, E-mail: cethea3@jhmi.edu
Tel: 410-550-4390
Principal Investigator: Phil Seo, MD, MHS

**St. Joseph’s Healthcare, Hamilton, ON**
Study Coordinator: Sandra Messier, E-mail: smessier@stjoes.ca
Tel: 905-522-1155 Ext. 35873
Principal Investigator: Nader Khalidi, MD

**Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, ON**
Study Coordinator: Julia Farquharson, E-mail: jfarquharson@mtsai.on.ca
Tel: 416-586-8616
Principal Investigator: Simon Carette, MD

**University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**
Study Coordinator: Dawn McBride, E-mail: dlm@pitt.edu
Tel: 412-586-3545
Principal Investigator: Kathleen Maksimowicz-McKinnon, DO

**University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah**
Study Coordinator: Jennifer Godina, E-mail: Jennifer.Godina@hsc.utah.edu
Tel: 801-581-4993
Principal Investigator: Curry Koening, MD, MS

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