Memory Treatment Research Study for Adults with Down Syndrome

CONTACT
Please contact us if you’d like more information.

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PURPOSE OF STUDY

Certain types of memory changes in older adults are early warning signs of dementia. In adults with Down syndrome, signs of dementia may also include such behavioral or personality changes as withdrawal, low mood, or passivity. Personality or memory changes can begin as early as the mid-thirties or middle age in individuals with Down syndrome.

A recent study at the Center for Cognitive Medicine found that nicotine patches improved memory in adults with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI). Our new study will evaluate if nicotine patches improve memory functioning in adults with Down syndrome.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

- Healthy male and female adults with Down syndrome
- Ages 35+
- Non-smokers
- Mild changes in memory, concentration, behavior, and/or functional independence
- Parent or caregiver who will come along for visits

WHO WE ARE

This treatment study is a collaboration between Vanderbilt’s Center for Cognitive Medicine, directed by Paul A. Newhouse, M.D. and the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center, directed by Elisabeth Dykens, Ph.D.

WHAT DOES THIS STUDY INVOLVE?

- 6 visits with research staff to evaluate participant’s:
  - Medical and cognitive status
  - Level of functioning
  - Changes in memory, cognitive, attention, and brain wave activity
- A one-month trial of study medication: low dose nicotine patches
- Monetary compensation