Welcome to ResearchMatch

You can make a difference through research.

Page Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6-7</td>
<td>Press Release from NIH (November 2009)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-9</td>
<td>Press Release from CWRU (November 2009)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NIH Announces First National Research Study Recruitment Registry

Nationwide Registry to “Match” Volunteers with Researchers

Individuals who want to participate in research studies now can connect online with researchers nationwide through the first disease-neutral, volunteer recruitment registry.

ResearchMatch.org is a not-for-profit secure Web site, designed to provide people who are interested in participating in research the opportunity to be matched with studies that may be the right fit for them.

ResearchMatch offers an easy-to-use, free and safe way for volunteers to connect with thousands of researchers who are conducting research on a wide range of diseases.

The site is a collaborative effort of the national network of medical research institutions affiliated with the Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSAs). The CTSA program, which is led by the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR), a part of the National Institutes of Health, is focused on enhancing local and national efforts to enhance the translation of laboratory discoveries into treatments for patients.

“Participant recruitment continues to be a significant barrier to the completion of research studies nationwide — recent NIH data indicates that just 4 percent of the U.S. population has participated in clinical trials,” said NCRR Director Barbara Alving, M.D. “ResearchMatch is a tool that can improve the connection and communication between potential participants and researchers providing opportunities for the public to contribute to advancing new treatments.”

The convenient and user-friendly registry employs a familiar research matching model that is complementary to Clinicaltrials.gov. One key difference is that ResearchMatch places the burden of connecting the right volunteers with the right study on the researchers, whereas Clinicaltrials.gov asks volunteers to identify the trials that could work for them.

“ResearchMatch offers a convenient solution to the complex, competitive and often costly participant recruitment system,” said Gordon Bernard, M.D., principal investigator of the Vanderbilt CTSA, which hosts the national registry. “NIH data indicates that 85 percent of trials don’t finish on time due to low patient participation, and 30 percent of trial sites fail to enroll even a single patient. We aim to help combat these challenges with ResearchMatch.”
**How ResearchMatch Works**
ResearchMatch will match any interested individual residing in the United States with researchers who are approved to recruit potential research volunteers through the system. After an individual has self-registered to become a volunteer, ResearchMatch’s security features ensure that personal information is protected until volunteers authorize the release of their contact information to a specific study that may be of interest to them. Volunteers are notified electronically when they are a possible match and then make the decision regarding the release of their contact information. It also will promote choice as there are no obligations on the volunteer to participate in studies.

For the first year of the project, only researchers affiliated with participating CTSA institutions are eligible to use ResearchMatch. However, plans are in place to make ResearchMatch available beyond the CTSA consortium by 2011. Currently 52 individual institutions associated with 40 CTSA sites are part of the ResearchMatch network. A list of these institutions may be viewed [here](#).

To learn more about ResearchMatch and to register as a volunteer, visit: [www.researchmatch.org](http://www.researchmatch.org).

**About the CTSA Consortium**
The CTSA consortium is a national network of 46 medical research institutions working together to improve the way biomedical research is conducted across the country. The consortium, funded through **Clinical and Translational Science Awards** (CTSAs), shares a common vision to reduce the time it takes for laboratory discoveries to become treatments for patients and to engage communities in clinical research efforts. It also is fulfilling the critical need to train a new generation of clinical researchers. The CTSA program is led by the [National Center for Research Resources](#), part of [National Institutes of Health](#).

Launched in 2006, this network now includes awardees in 26 states. When the program is fully implemented, it will support approximately 60 CTSAs across the nation.

For more information about the CTSA program, visit [www.ncrr.nih.gov/ctsa](http://www.ncrr.nih.gov/ctsa). The CTSA consortium Web site, which provides information on the consortium, current members and new grantees, can be accessed at [www.CTSAweb.org](http://www.CTSAweb.org).

The National Center for Research Resources, part of NIH, provides laboratory scientists and clinical researchers with the resources and training they need to understand, detect, treat and prevent a wide range of diseases. NCRR supports all aspects of translational and clinical research, connecting researchers, patients and communities across the nation. For more information, visit [www.ncrr.nih.gov](http://www.ncrr.nih.gov).

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) — **The Nation's Medical Research Agency** — includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. It is the primary federal agency for conducting and supporting basic, clinical and translational medical research, and it investigates the causes, treatments and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit [www.nih.gov](http://www.nih.gov).
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT:
Christina DeAngelis
216.368.3635
Christina.DeAngelis@case.edu

CASE WESTERN RESERVE IS PARTICIPATING SITE IN NEWLY-LAUNCHED NATIONAL VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT REGISTRY LAUNCH OF RESEARCHMATCH.ORG

CLEVELAND – November 10, 2009 – People within the Cleveland community who want to participate in research studies can now connect online with researchers nationwide by joining ResearchMatch.org. ResearchMatch is a not-for-profit website that brings together researchers and people who are willing to learn more about research studies in a secure and convenient manner. Case Western Reserve University is one of the 51 institutions participating in this first national, disease-neutral, volunteer recruitment registry.

ResearchMatch is the product of the Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA) Consortium, which is supported by the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR), a part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The CTSA is a national network of 46 medical research institutions working together to improve the way biomedical research is conducted across the country.

In 2007, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded Case Western Reserve University $64 million to become part of the national consortium designed to transform how clinical and translational research is conducted, ultimately enabling researchers to provide new treatments more efficiently and quickly to patients. Case Western Reserve University named its award the Clinical and Translational Science Collaborative, (CTSC), as it is a collaboration among Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland Clinic, MetroHealth Medical Center and University Hospitals. The ultimate goal of the CTSC in Cleveland is to provide complete service and integrated clinical translational research capability within the Cleveland community that will improve the health of patients in Northeast Ohio through patient-based research. (http://casemed.case.edu/ctsc/ )

“This represents an unprecedented opportunity to implement some of the enormous promise of the CTSA program nationally,” said Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD, Dean of the School of Medicine and the Principal Investigator of the Cleveland CTSA, regarding ResearchMatch. “We look forward to seeing how this program unfolds.”

How does ResearchMatch work?
ResearchMatch will ‘match’ any interested individual residing in the United States with researchers who are approved to recruit potential research volunteers through the system. After an individual has self-registered to become a volunteer, ResearchMatch’s security features ensure that personal information is protected until volunteers authorize the release of their contact information to a specific study that may be of interest to them. Volunteers are simply notified electronically that they are a possible match and then make the decision regarding the release of their contact information.
For the first year of the project, only researchers affiliated with participating CTSA institutions may be eligible to utilize the recruitment tool, but plans exist to ensure the recruitment tool will be available beyond the CTSA by 2011.

Currently 51 institutions representing 39 of the 46 CTSAs are listed as participating sites through ResearchMatch, including Case Western Reserve University, University Hospitals and MetroHealth Medical Center. A complete list of these institutions may be viewed here.

ResearchMatch is accessible at: www.researchmatch.org.

---

**About Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine**

Founded in 1843, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine is the largest medical research institution in Ohio and is among the nation’s top medical schools for research funding from the National Institutes of Health. The School of Medicine is recognized throughout the international medical community for outstanding achievements in teaching. The School’s innovative and pioneering Western Reserve2 curriculum interweaves four themes--research and scholarship, clinical mastery, leadership, and civic professionalism--to prepare students for the practice of evidence-based medicine in the rapidly changing health care environment of the 21st century. Eleven Nobel Laureates have been affiliated with the school.

Annually, the School of Medicine trains more than 800 M.D. and M.D./Ph.D. students and ranks in the top 25 among U.S. research-oriented medical schools as designated by *U.S. News and World Report* “Guide to Graduate Education.”

The School of Medicine’s primary affiliate is University Hospitals Case Medical Center and is additionally affiliated with MetroHealth Medical Center, the Louis Stokes Cleveland Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and the Cleveland Clinic, with which it established the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University in 2002. [http://casemed.case.edu](http://casemed.case.edu).