

We may also ask you to undergo additional testing, such as a glucose tolerance test, axon flare testing, or answer surveys on general health and well-being.

Who can participate in this study?

Any man or woman over the age of 18, who has the diagnosis of osteoarthritis, may participate. You must provide a note from your doctor that corroborates this. You cannot have diabetes. If you qualify and choose to participate, you could receive up to \$200.00 in compensation upon completion of one of our studies. The amount of compensation will depend on the study you are enrolled in. You may also choose to simply volunteer for one of our studies. We will pay for parking costs at the Massachusetts General Hospital garages.

This is *NOT* a treatment study.

What is Osteoarthritis?

Osteoarthritis (OA) is the most common joint disorder, which is due to aging and wear and tear on a joint. Cartilage is the firm, rubbery tissue that cushions your bones at the joints, and allows bones to glide over one another. If the cartilage breaks down and wears away, the bones rub together. This often causes chronic pain, swelling, and stiffness.

What are we studying?

The Nerve Injury Unit, Dept of Neurology at Massachusetts General Hospital is a clinical and research laboratory dedicated to research on chronic pain. We are trying to understand the connection between chronic pain and nerve damage, to improve diagnosis and treatment.

How can I help?

People with osteoarthritis have pain that is not normally associated with nerve pain. We are recruiting patients with non-

nerve pain to evaluate the results of tests for nerve pain..

What do our studies involve?

We will perform two tests, Autonomic Function Testing and Skin Biopsy.

Autonomic function testing (AFT) consists of four separate tests that are routinely used by doctors to look for evidence of nerve damage. In this test, we monitor blood pressure, heart rate, deep breathing and sweat production. You will be lying down during most of this testing. Subjects may be instructed to avoid certain foods, and specific medications, as is typical for these types of tests, up to 2 days before testing.

We will also take one skin biopsy from your lower leg under local anesthesia to look at the nerve endings in the skin. A 3mm biopsy, (the size of a pencil tip) is removed just above your ankle.

There are no medications or new procedures being tested. We do not stop or change any medications your doctor may have prescribed.

Whom can I contact about the study?

If you are interested in more information about this research study, please call The Nerve Injury Unit at 617-726-9391 and talk to one of our study staff, or email us at NerveInjury@partners.org.

Partners Human Research Committee

APPROVAL Effective Date

4/4/2017



MASSACHUSETTS
GENERAL HOSPITAL

Osteoarthritis

Do you or someone you know, suffer from arthritis? If so we need you!



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