



Research Study Volunteers Needed: Men and Women between the ages of 20-40 years and 60 years and older

The UConn Center on Aging at the Farmington campus in collaboration with Duke University and The Jackson Laboratory is recruiting volunteers for the study, 'Skin Immunity as a Function of Frailty, Aging, and Skin Microbiome Composition'.

WHY IS THIS STUDY BEING DONE?

We are investigating how age is related to skin immunity. This research may help scientists understand the relationship between skin microbiomes and the immune system in older adults, which could lead to the discovery of therapies that promote healthy aging of skin.

To be Eligible:

- Age 20-40 years or 60 years and older
- No presence of inflammation of visible skin or lesions at sites of planned sampling
- No tape or adhesive allergies
- No history of Keloids (a type of raised scar that occurs when there is an overgrowth of scar tissue at the site of skin injury)
- No current psoriasis flare up
- Not currently immunosuppressed
- No use of antibiotics/antifungals or high dose steroids in the past four weeks.
- No diagnosis of a terminal illness (or use of palliative or hospice care).
- No history of the following illnesses: diabetes requiring insulin, kidney failure requiring dialysis, or severe autoimmune disease requiring biological therapy.
- Must **not** be pregnant.

WHAT DOES THIS STUDY INVOLVE?

- Medical history as well as Skin and Health questionnaires
- Physical frailty evaluations (if 60 years and older)
- Evaluation of skin properties (hydration and oiliness), skin swabbing and Micropatch placement (along with photographs) on 8 skin sites

HOW LONG WILL MY PARTICIPATION IN THIS STUDY LAST?

Attend 2 (and possibly 4) study visits at UConn Center on Aging. Visits 1 and 2 will occur on consecutive days while Visits 3 and 4 (if necessary) will occur within 6 months of Visits 1 and 2. Visits 1 and 3 will take up to 2 hours and Visits 3 and 4 will take 30 minutes.

WILL I BE COMPENSATED FOR THIS?

Volunteers will be reimbursed for their participation: \$25 Visa gift card for Visit 1 and \$50 Visa gift card for Visit 2; \$25 Visa gift card for Visit 3 and \$50 Visa gift card for Visit 4 should you be asked to return for these visits.

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This study is being conducted at the Center on Aging at UConn Health in Farmington, CT under the direction of Julie Robison, PhD, George Kuchel, MD, and Patrick Coll, MD from UConn Health as well as Julia Oh, PhD from Duke University, Sasan Jalili, PhD, and Karolina Palucka, MD, PhD from The Jackson Laboratory