Mayo Study of Lymphoma and Leukemia

Clinic Controls
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Who is Participating in this Study?
Patients coming to Mayo Clinic who have never been diagnosed with lymphoma or leukemia (controls).

Why is This Study Being Done?
To learn more about the environmental and genetic factors that might be responsible for Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma (NHL) and Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL). NHL and CLL are forms of cancer that originate in the bone marrow or lymph nodes. NHL is the third most rapidly rising cancer in the United States and CLL is the most common leukemia in the United States. We hope to uncover clues about risk factors that might cause these diseases so that we can better prevent and treat them. We will do this by comparing Controls (like you) to patients who have recently been diagnosed with NHL or CLL.

What Does it Mean to Participate?
You can participate in this study during the visit which you have scheduled with your Internal Medicine Doctor. You will not need to make extra visits. If you participate you will be asked to:
1) Complete questionnaires regarding your medical and social history, diet, jobs you have held and family health history. If you have ever mixed or applied pesticides as part of your job or have worked on a farm greater than one year after age 18, we will have you complete a Farming questionnaire also. Questionnaires may take anywhere from 25 to 60 minutes depending on the number of questionnaires we give you.

2) Donate 40 ml of blood (about 2-3 tablespoons). We will make every effort to collect this blood sample along with the blood work you are having done. However, you will need to sign the consent before they are able to take the study blood. If you have your blood work done before we contact you we will ask you to please consider an additional blood draw for the study (even if you have eaten). Serum and DNA will be processed from your blood to use for our research.

3) We may review your medical records for research.

4) In the future, we may ask you to sign a form for release of non-Mayo medical records to confirm certain medical conditions that you may report in the questionnaires. You may agree or refuse to release those records if you are asked.
Will I Benefit from this Study?
There are no direct benefits to you for participating in this study. However, you will be contributing to a study aimed at providing new insights about the causes of lymphoma and leukemia. The information can be used to reduce the occurrence of these diseases in the future. Only with the help of people like you can this important type of research be conducted.

What Are the Costs of Participation?
It won’t cost you or your insurance provider any money to participate in this study. However, you will spend time completing the questionnaires and getting blood drawn. The cost of this blood draw will be billed directly to the Mayo Clinic. If you choose not to participate, you will not jeopardize present or future medical care and treatment at the Mayo Clinic or other benefits to which you are entitled.

When we receive your questionnaire(s), blood sample and signed consent we will send you payment for the time you spent in the study.

What About My Privacy?
All records from the study will be used for research purposes only. The results of tests will not become part of your Mayo Clinic medical record. We ask for your Social Security number to provide payment. Results may be published in a scientific journal, but your identity will not be released. This is in keeping with Mayo Clinic’s policy of patient confidentiality.
Will I Know the Results of this Research?
At a future date, if clinically useful information arises as a result of this study, we may contact participants for discussion of clinical testing. This testing would be optional and you do not have to decide about it at this time.

What Happens Next?
Shortly after you check in for your scheduled appointment a study coordinator will page you. You will be given additional information about the study and have a chance to ask questions. If you decide to participate, you will be asked to sign the consent form immediately. You will then be given the questionnaires and a postage paid envelope. Arrangements will be made for a blood draw to be done the same day when possible.

Principal Investigators
James R. Cerhan, M.D., Ph.D.

Study Staff
Toll Free 1-800-610-7093
Fax 507-266-2727

Address
Mayo Clinic
Charlton 6
200 First Street SW
Rochester, MN 55905

E-mail: lymphoma@mayo.edu