



FIA News

Volume 1 March 2004

Newsletter for the Familial Intracranial Aneurysm Study

What is the FIA Study?

The Familial Intracranial Aneurysm Study is a collaborative research effort of neurologists and neurosurgeons throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. The goal of this study is to identify genes and other risk factors that may be important in the development of an aneurysm in the blood vessels of the brain.

The FIA study is sponsored by the National Institute of Neurologic Diseases and Stroke, and the hopes are to enroll 475 families.

To participate in this study, families must have two or more affected pairs of siblings (brothers/sisters) or 3 or more family members affected with intracranial aneurysms.

Participation in this project is voluntary, and there will be no monetary compensation to family members for their participation. However there will be funds available for travel reimbursement, if necessary.

The Coordinating Center is located at the University of Cincinnati, with 25 study centers throughout the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Within these 25 study centers there are over 40 institutions identifying and enrolling families.

We would like to thank the many families currently participating in the FIA study. Without your participation this project would not be possible.

We are always looking for additional families to assist us in reaching our goal. If you would like additional information pertaining to the FIA study please contact:

Laura Sauerbeck - Study Coordinator
University of Cincinnati, Depart. of Neurology
Cincinnati, OH 45267

Ph: 513-558-1742 or 1-800-503-3427

Email: laura.sauerbeck@uc.edu

Or check to study website at

www.med.uc.edu/neurology/FIA

to find a recruiting site nearest to you.

What is an Intracranial Aneurysm?

An intracranial aneurysm is a weak or thin spot that resembles a balloon which forms within the arteries of the brain. A rupture of an aneurysm may lead to a subarachnoid hemorrhage (SAH). Symptoms of a SAH include sudden:

- Severe Headache
- Loss of Consciousness
- Pain in neck, back, eye or face
- Nausea and vomiting
- Photophobia (sensitivity to light)
- Phonophobia (Sensitivity to sound)

Did you Know?

- Risk factors for aneurysm forming include smoking, hypertension and family history.
- Aneurysm ruptures occur most often in people between 40 and 60 years of age.
- It is believed that 1% to 5% of the population may have an unruptured brain aneurysm
- The annual cost of ruptured aneurysm in the United States is \$1.7 billion.

Enrollment Activity as of

February 29, 2004:

280 families have been identified with over 950 individual family members participating

FIA Sites



Canadian Sites

McGill University, Montreal
University of Manitoba, Winnipeg
London Health Sciences Research Center, Ontario
University of Ottawa



United States Sites

Univ. of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH
Mayo, Rochester, MN
UMDNJ, Newark, NJ
Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, OH
Columbia University, New York, NY
Univ. of Florida, Gainesville, FL
Univ. of Texas, Houston, TX
Indianapolis Neuro Group, Indianapolis, IN
Univ. of Maryland, Baltimore, MD
Northwestern University, Chicago, IL
Univ. of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
Stanford University, Stanford, CA
UCSF, San Francisco, CA
USC, Los Angeles, CA
Univ. of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA
Univ. of Washington, Seattle, WA
Univ. of Alabama, Birmingham, AL
Brigham & Women's, Boston, MA
Mass General, Boston, MA
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI



Australian Sites

Royal Perth Hospital, Perth
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Nedlands
Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide
Royal Melbourne Hospital, Melbourne
Alfred Hospital, Prahran
Royal North Shore, St. Leonards
Westmead Hospital, Westmead
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Camperdown



New Zealand Site

Auckland Hospital, Auckland

Why One Family Decided To Participate In This Research

A family from Kentucky decided to participate in the FIA Study because they want answers. The family has 8 members affected with intracranial aneurysms. Over the last couple of years they have lost 3 individuals to ruptured aneurysms and three others have had aneurysms detected and surgically repaired. Twenty family members, 3 generations all met at one home to be screened and enrolled into the FIA Study. This family was so eager to spread the word of this much needed research effort, that they invited the press to their home during the study enrollment. This was not the end to this family's crusade. They have also encouraged another family to enroll in the study, which recently lost their father to an aneurysm.

Meet the Coordinating Center



Joseph Broderick, M.D. is the Principal Investigator of the FIA Study and has the overall responsibility for the project. Dr. Broderick is also the Director of the Greater Cincinnati Stroke Team.



Laura Sauerbeck, RN, MS, is the FIA Study Coordinator and is also a member of the Greater Cincinnati Stroke Team.



Jeanne Sester, Research Assistant, is the newest member of the FIA Coordinating Center. She keeps the daily activities of the study running smoothly.

Check out these Web sites:

www.med.uc.edu/neurology/fia

www.mayfieldclinic.com

www.emermed.uc.edu/stroketeam

www.ucsf.edu/stroke

www.clevelandclinic.org

www.leadingtheadvance.com

www.strokeassociation.org

<http://www.stroke.org/>

www.netwellness.com

<http://www.ctru.auckland.ac.nz/>

<http://www.ucsf.edu/stroke>