

Research projects available at The Nebraska Medical Center, Nebraska Stroke Center

The Nebraska Medical Center, Nebraska Stroke Center and the University of Nebraska Medical Center engage in clinical research with the goal of providing the most advanced care available, while seeking to further our understanding of stroke pathophysiology and management. Patients are only enrolled in clinical trials after informed consent has been obtained. The goal of the study, risks, benefits, and other treatment options are explained in detail to potential patients.

RESPECT: Randomized Evaluation of Recurrent Stroke Comparing PFO Closure to Established Current Standard of Care

Cryptogenic Stroke and PFO Study

Adults 19 to 60 years old who have had a stroke in the past 180 days and have a common heart defect (patent foramen ovale or PFO) are invited to participate in a research study.

The purpose of the study is to find out whether implanting an investigational device to repair the PFO during a non-surgical procedure is better than standard medical treatment in preventing future strokes.

To learn more about PFO closure visit www.amplatzer.com.

Contact:

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IRIS: Insulin Resistance Intervention after Stroke

The University of Nebraska Medical Center is seeking patients who have suffered a stroke or a particular transient ischemic attack (TIA) to participate in a clinical trial.

For survivors of ischemic stroke a major source of subsequent mortality and functional decline is recurrent stroke and heart attack. On average, within five years of the initial event, 25 percent of patients who survive an initial stroke will have a recurrent stroke, 10 percent will have a heart attack and 12 percent will die from one of these conditions. Prevention of recurrent stroke and other vascular events, therefore, is of major importance.

The IRIS trial will examine a new therapeutic approach that is based on the detection and treatment of insulin resistance. Insulin resistance affects almost all patients with Type 2 Diabetes and 50 percent of non-diabetic patients with ischemic stroke. Based on past research, investigators think that treatment of insulin resistance may reduce the incidence of stroke and heart attack. This is an international NIH-funded study.

To test this hypothesis the IRIS trial will determine the effectiveness of pioglitazone, an agent that reduces insulin resistance, for reducing the risk for stroke or heart attack among patients with a recent ischemic stroke. Participants must be age 45 or older and must have had a stroke no less than 14 days ago and no more than six months before randomization. Participants must also meet the criteria for insulin resistance and cannot currently be on a diabetic medication regimen.

Contact:

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CAPTURE II: Carotid RX ACCULINK/RX ACCUNET Post-Approval Trial to Uncover Unanticipated or Rare Events

CAPTURE II is a descriptive post-approval registry that will be conducted at approximately 400 clinical sites in the United States with open-ended enrollment.

The purposes of this registry

- To provide an ongoing post-market surveillance mechanism to document clinical outcomes
- To provide additional information that the RX ACCULINK Carotid Stent System and RX ACCUNET Embolic Protection System (EPS) can be used safely by a wide range of physicians under commercial use conditions

Contact:

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Augmented Sensory Feedback in Motor Learning in Chronic Stroke Survivors

The University of Nebraska Medical Center is participating in a research study to determine whether chronic stroke subjects can make more accurate reaching movements after training reaching movements with augmented visual feedback.

This study is designed to further the understanding of controlled movements in stroke subjects, utilizing a new technology for learning impaired movements and providing a new direction to stroke rehabilitation.

Participants for this study

- must be 50 – 70 years of age
- stroke onset within five years
- unilateral stroke
- single stroke episode
- ability to follow a three-step command

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