



FSHD Research Study

Participants are sought for a University of Minnesota study on muscle stem cells in FSHD.

What is involved?

Study participants (FSHD and control individuals) will provide a small muscle biopsy from the quadriceps. The biopsy is taken using a needle and performed by Dr. Karachunski in the Muscular Dystrophy Clinic. Topical anesthetic is used.

What are we trying to find out?

We are studying the muscle stem cell in FSHD, and in particular are studying what the DUX4 protein is doing in these stem cells. Although the genetics of FSHD clearly implicate the DUX4 protein in the disease, we do not understand how DUX4 leads to muscle loss. This study addresses this question.

Will I benefit directly?

There is no direct clinical benefit to study participants. Study participants will receive a token remuneration (\$200) for their time and inconvenience. This study is aimed at understanding why and how muscle is lost in FSHD. This knowledge is essential to developing a rational therapy.

How can I participate?

Please discuss your interest with Joline Dalton, in person, by phone (612) 625-7967, or by email: jcdalton@umn.edu.

This study involves ***paired*** FSHD and control samples. For every FSHD participant, we need to find a control (unaffected) participant. You can help – if you have a sibling, spouse, loved one, friend, or colleague who would be willing to participate and serve as your control, please do let us know.

Your participation is essential.

Isolating and studying cells from individuals with FSHD is critical for advancing our understanding and future treatment of this disease.