



# ***CF Twin and Sibling Study***

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## ***Genetic Modifiers of Cystic Fibrosis: Sibling Study***

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***Coordinated By Johns Hopkins Medicine***

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## **Genome Wide Association Studies**

In collaboration with our colleagues from the Case Western/UNC Genetic Modifier Study and Toronto GMS, we are preparing DNA samples for analysis in the coming weeks. Thanks to your efforts we were able to assemble over 650 trios (mom/dad/sib) and over 250 sib pairs – 559 families and 1802 individuals! This data will provide excellent power for us to find genes that modify CF i.e. CFRD, BMI, and lung function.

## **Parents!**

Recruiting both parents is not always an easy task, and you may wonder why we stress this collection so often. Genome wide association studies have proven to be an increasingly powerful tool to find genes responsible for disease (see above). To best perform this association analysis, we need **both** parents to determine patterns of transmission through generations. When speaking to parents about this research study, it can be helpful to let them know that **THEY** can make a personal contribution to CF by participating in this project.

## **Non-Participating CF Centers**

We continue to approach centers on a regular basis to ask them to help us with this unique project. Significant resources, both from the CF Foundation and from the National Institutes of Health have been committed to this study. If you have colleagues who are not currently enrolling participants for our study, please talk with them about its importance. Don't forget to mention reimbursement (\$150 per sibling/\$50 per parent)! We cannot fulfill the study aims without help from every CF Center in the US.

*Best Regards,*

***Garry***