



Breastfeeding Mothers Needed for a Research Study

Genetic Variation in Milk Zinc Concentration Study

What is the study about?

We are recruiting breast feeding mothers between the ages of 18 and 40 years old to take part in a research study to help us understand if a woman's genetic makeup influences her ability to transfer zinc into breast milk during lactation. Inability to transfer enough zinc into milk puts breastfed infants at risk for zinc deficiency which impairs growth, decreases immune function and compromises behavioral development. The goal of this study is to determine if we can use a mother's genetics to determine if her infant is at risk for zinc deficiency in hopes of developing ways to quickly and safely provide enough zinc to her nursing infant.

What are the benefits and risks to you or your baby?

There are no direct benefits or risks to you or your baby if you participate in this study but we may gain new knowledge to help provide optimal nutrition to other breastfed infants.

What do you have to do?

All we ask is that you provide us with a small sample of breast milk (less than 1 ounce) and a sample of the skin from the inside of your cheek. A cheek swab is similar to the pressure you feel from brushing your teeth. We can come to your home to pick up the samples or we can provide you with mailing materials to send it to us when you are ready.

What do you do if you are interested?

If you or anyone you know might be interested in participating, please contact Vanessa Velasquez for more information!

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