We are looking for study participants!

As part of the Cincinnati Children’s Division of Pulmonary Medicine, our center works to understand rare mutations in the genetic coding of the cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator protein (CFTR).

We are testing the effects of CFTR modulators on patient-derived epithelial cells, which we are collecting from the nasal cavity of our study participants. Our hope is to learn more about rare CFTR mutations, which may help inform personalized care for patients with cystic fibrosis.

How nasal cells are obtained?
Nasal cells are relatively easy to obtain at the participant/patient’s care center, where a small brush or curette is rubbed inside the nose to collect cells.

What are the potential adverse effects?
Collecting the nasal cells may tickle or itch, causing a runny nose or sneezing. There is a small risk of nosebleed.

How will the cells be analyzed?
We will use two primary methods of testing CFTR function and modulator effect on CFTR:
- Analysis of CFTR function in cell monolayers via ion transport testing
- Analysis of CFTR function via fluid transport testing

How long will the results take?
From cell procurement to a complete analysis, data is typically available in 7 to 10 weeks. This information will be shared with the patient/family and the primary treating and/or referring CF physician. Sometimes, cell samples become infected in the culture process and we may need to re-collect samples.

Who is eligible?

+ Must Have
- Clinical concern for cystic fibrosis (CF) or a diagnosis of CF
- At least one rare or unidentified CFTR mutation

– Can’t Have
- Severe nasal disease
- An active infection

Questions? Contact:
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