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The University of Utah

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Study of Blood and
Lymph Node Cancers*



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Blood and Lymph Node Cancers

Blood and lymph node cancers are diseases of the blood and include lymphoma, multiple myeloma and leukemia. Taken together these disorders are the fourth most common form of cancer.

About the study

Blood and lymph node cancers can begin in either the lymphatic tissue (as in the case of lymphoma) or in the bone marrow (as with leukemia and myeloma), and they all are involved with the uncontrolled growth of white blood cells. There are many subtypes of these cancers, e.g., chronic lymphocytic leukemia and non-Hodgkin lymphoma. There is evidence that these cancers cluster in families. This study aims to understand how genetics and environmental exposures contribute to the development of these cancers.

Who can help?

Individuals with a blood or lymph node cancers and their family members can provide important information to researchers studying the genetic factors involved in these disorders. Also, individuals without these disorders can aid in the research as 'controls' to which the affected individuals can be compared to.

What is involved in the Study?

As a study participant you may be asked to:

- Answer questions about your health and family history of cancer.
- Donate approximately 3 tablespoons of blood.
- Donate a sample of saliva.

In addition, if you have had medical care for blood or lymph node cancer or related illness, we may ask for your written consent to obtain medical records or specimens related to that care.

What are the costs of participation?

There are no monetary costs for participating in this study. Some of your time, however, will be spent completing questionnaire and providing samples of blood and cheek cells. If any costs are incurred by you for these activities, you may send the bill to the University of Utah so that you will not be charged. If you choose not to participate, you will not jeopardize present or future medical care and treatment at the University of Utah or other benefits to which you may be entitled.

What about my privacy?

Research test results are confidential and are not part of your medical history while being used for research purposes. In some cases, you may be given the opportunity to learn of these results. Upon providing us with your written permission, we would then release these results to your clinical care providers. Only at that time and with your permission, will they become part of your medical history.