

Volunteers sought for clinical study: Investigating Typhoid Fever Pathogenesis (TYGER)

CLINICAL STUDIES (/STAFF/NEWS-LISTING?CATEGORY=1061)

The Oxford Vaccine Group, part of the University's Centre for Clinical Vaccinology and Tropical Medicine, is looking to enrol healthy adults aged between 18 and 60 to a clinical study evaluating typhoid fever and how the typhoid bacteria causes disease.

Typhoid fever is an infection caused by the bacteria *Salmonella* Typhi. Although typhoid fever is rare in the UK, it is a major problem in developing countries, affecting up to 22 million people and resulting in many deaths every year. Access to clean water and sanitation facilities could help to eradicate typhoid infection, however, this is difficult to implement in resource poor countries.

The use of effective vaccines against typhoid could also help to control the spread of disease. The currently used typhoid vaccines are only moderately effective in preventing infection in people who have been immunised. Currently no typhoid vaccine is licensed for use in young children. New typhoid vaccines have been developed to overcome these problems, but more research and information is needed to study how well these vaccines work before they can be routinely used.

In this study, the Oxford Vaccine Group is aiming to understand more about the *Salmonella* Typhi bacteria and how it causes disease. In particular, the group aims to study the importance of a toxin produced by the typhoid bacteria, called the **Typhoid Toxin**. It is hoped that knowledge gained from this study will help to better understand typhoid fever, develop new diagnostic tests and contribute to development of new vaccines against *Salmonella* Typhi to help to control this preventable disease.

This study undertakes a 'challenge' with two strains of the typhoid bacteria (*Salmonella* Typhi). This involves exposing participants to live *Salmonella* Typhi, under tightly controlled circumstances, by asking them to swallow a solution that contains the bacteria. After the challenge participants are closely monitored for a period of two weeks and treated with antibiotics as soon as they show any symptoms of infection. This process has been undertaken by participants in previous Oxford Vaccine Group studies since 2011.

Some people will develop symptoms of typhoid infection (headache, fever, aches and pains); they will be treated promptly with a course of antibiotics. Some people will not have any symptoms, but will still receive antibiotic treatment two weeks after drinking the bacteria. Participants will then have four further follow up appointments for up to a year. The maximum study participation time is 12 months.

Participation in the study is voluntary and, if enrolled, you may withdraw at any time. The Oxford Vaccine Group would provide reimbursement for your time and inconvenience of taking part.

To find out what participation would involve, visit the Oxford Vaccine Group website (<http://trials.ovg.ox.ac.uk/trials/>) or contact the team on 01865 611400 or at info@ovg.ox.ac.uk (<mailto:info@ovg.ox.ac.uk>).