The MURDOCK Study now offers a unique enrollment opportunity for groups of individuals. Called the “mass enrollment,” this innovative method was launched in 2009 to attract study volunteers at locations convenient to them, such as a workplace, healthcare site, school, or church. Members of our team organize mass enrollments based on the interested organization’s availability and number of potential volunteers—the events can range from a half-day to multiple days, and can be held at any given location. This type of recruitment and enrollment event has proven to be successful and convenient for many study volunteers and has resulted in a significant number of new MURDOCK Study participants. Thank you to everyone who has joined our effort.

Health Fair and Mass Enrollment at McGill Family Medicine Center

On April 14, 2012, the MURDOCK Study co-sponsored a health fair and mass enrollment with the McGill Family Medicine Center in Concord. The fair provided an opportunity for the local community to participate in health screenings, gather information about health and community resources, learn more about the MURDOCK Study, and enroll.

First Presbyterian Church Holds Mass Enrollment

The First Presbyterian Church in Concord hosted a mass enrollment on February 11, 2012, in the parish hall of the church. Carol Hovey, parish nurse, was instrumental in communicating the MURDOCK Study’s goals and efforts to the church congregation. The full-day mass enrollment resulted in 31 church parishioners joining the MURDOCK Study.

What Is a Mass Enrollment?

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If you are affiliated with an organization – your workplace, church, school – that may be interested in scheduling a mass enrollment, call (704) 250-5861 or e-mail murdock-study@duke.edu for more information.
State of the Studies Held on April 17

The first State of the Studies was held on April 17, 2012, at the David H. Murdock Research Institute Core Laboratory on the North Carolina Research Campus (NCRC). Co-sponsored by the Duke Translational Medicine Institute-MURDOCK Study, Carolinas Medical Center (CMC)-NorthEast, and the NCRC, this event was well attended by members of the community. It was an informational open house for the public to learn about ongoing clinical research studies currently seeking volunteers. Information tables represented studies supported by the MURDOCK Study, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, and CMC-NorthEast practices.

The significance of clinical research participation and its benefits were the focus of two lively panel discussions that included study participants, local physicians, and investigators. Leah Bouk of the MURDOCK Study moderated the sessions. Gordon Lam, MD, a panelist, CMC-NorthEast rheumatologist, and MURDOCK Study Healthcare Advisory Board member, explained the significance of clinical research participation during the evening’s panel. “Clinical research is important because it drives medicine,” he said. “Serendipitously, it can lead to other discoveries and other thoughts.”

Find us on Facebook and Twitter

“Like” us on Facebook and post on our wall or share your thoughts and experiences about participating in the MURDOCK Study with your own network. On Twitter, mention us (@murdocktweet) and share your MURDOCK Study experiences with your followers.

Perla Nunes Appointed as President-Elect of Charlotte ACRP Chapter

The MURDOCK Study’s very own Perla Nunes, an integral member of the Kannapolis-based study team, has been appointed president-elect for the Greater Charlotte Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP), 2012-2013.

Currently the MURDOCK Study’s community outreach and administrative manager, Nunes has been with the study for nearly three years and has served as an active participant of the ACRP since 2007, first as a member and then as secretary of the Charlotte chapter. Nunes is very excited about the upcoming year in her new position: “I am looking forward to my role as president of the Charlotte chapter of the ACRP so that I can further my interaction with clinical research colleagues more globally while contributing to the professional development and promotion of this profession locally. In turn, I hope to advance my own knowledge base and skill set in this rewarding occupation.”

Recruiting for the MURDOCK Physical Performance Study Is Now Underway!

The MURDOCK Study team is now recruiting individuals age 30 and older who have not yet joined the MURDOCK Study to participate in the Physical Performance Study led by Dr. Miriam Morey, co-director of the Duke Older Americans Independence (Pepper) Center and associate director of research at the Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Center of the Durham VA Medical Center.

What is involved?

1. Participating in two study visits, including:
   a. Two brief surveys about your physical abilities and eating/activity habits
   b. A memory test
   c. A series of easy-to-moderate physical activities
   d. A small collection of blood at the second visit

2. Wearing a device (called an accelerometer) that measures your activity for seven days following each visit

A total of $30 in gift cards will be provided to participants who complete two visits.

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