Duke's MURDOCK Study offers capabilities to accelerate research for collaborators

KANNAPOLIS, N.C.— About 120 miles southwest of Durham, the Duke Translational Research Institute (DTRI) has an important longitudinal study underway that offers a breadth of assets and capabilities to both Duke researchers and those from other institutions interested in everything from bench and translational science using biological samples and clinical data to clinical research involving human subjects.

The MURDOCK Study, based at the North Carolina Research Campus in Kannapolis, North Carolina, enrolled its first participant in 2009 with a staff of four Duke employees. Six years later, the 30-member Duke team has enrolled more than 12,000 participants, and the MURDOCK Study has entered a new phase of collaboration.

Under the leadership of L. Kristin Newby, MD, MHS, principal investigator for the study and Professor of Medicine in Cardiology at the Duke University School of Medicine, the MURDOCK Study pursues specific, attainable, and incremental goals defined as horizons.

“By collaborating with the MURDOCK Study, investigators have access to an incredibly rich inventory of biospecimens, molecular data generated from the samples and clinical data from participants in our registry, as well as ancillary studies. Our well-developed infrastructure makes identifying cohorts and conducting clinical and health services research exceptionally efficient,” Newby said. “We have established a foundation that will accelerate research.”

An acronym for the Measurement to Understand the Reclassification of Disease of Cabarrus/Kannapolis, the MURDOCK Study is working to reclassify health and disease through advanced scientific technologies, expertise from both Duke researchers and external partners, and close collaboration with a strong network of local and regional community partners.

The MURDOCK Study today offers collaborators access to:

- Nearly 450,000 annotated biological samples stored in Kannapolis, North Carolina from more than 12,000 study participants, each geospatially mapped.
- Biospecimens paired with clinical data, annual follow-up and medical records.
- Consented study participants available for new study contact up to four times annually.
- Clinical infrastructure readily accessible to maximize participant contact, access to local providers, diverse populations and patient cohorts.
- 5,000 square feet of Class A medical office space with four clinical exam rooms on the North Carolina Research Campus to expedite study enrollment.

Visit our website to learn more about the MURDOCK Study and how to join: www.murdock-study.org
• Streamlined study start-up processes, regulatory support, and clinical staffing and recruiters.
• Bilingual staff, with all study materials translated into Spanish.
• Duke scientific and clinical thought leadership available for consultation on study design, analysis, and dissemination plans.

The MURDOCK Study has created a video for potential partners to learn more. To collaborate with the MURDOCK Study, visit www.murdock-study.org or go to Collaborators. Contact the study at murdock-study@duke.edu or 704-250-5861.

For more information about banked biospecimens and associated data, visit Data Assets. For a snapshot of current demographics of the MURDOCK Study Community Registry and Biorepository, visit Registry Demographics.

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