

PFAS Multi-site Health Study

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- Conducted by the University at Albany School of Public Health and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH)
- Funded by the Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR), a division of the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)

Multi-Site Study of Human Health Effects of Exposure to PFAS in Drinking Water

The ATSDR, part of the CDC, is studying human health effects of exposure to drinking water contaminated with PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances).

We will study the associations between specific health effects and serum (blood) PFAS levels among adults and children exposed to PFAS-contaminated drinking water.

Sites Included in the Study

- Newburgh and Hoosick Falls, New York
- Communities near UC Irvine Medical Center, California
- El Paso County, Colorado
- Hyannis and Ayer, Massachusetts
- Parchment/Cooper Township and North Kent County, Michigan
- Gloucester County, New Jersey
- Montgomery and Bucks Counties, Pennsylvania

What Does the Study Involve?

- Adults and children in Newburgh and Hoosick Falls will be invited to participate if they meet eligibility requirements.
- We plan to enroll 1000 adults and 300 children.
- If eligible, adults and children will attend a one-time clinic visit. They will give a blood sample, a urine sample, and answer a health questionnaire.
- Children will also complete cognitive and behavioral screenings (possibly on a return visit).
- All participants will receive a results report and reimbursement for each portion of the clinic visit they complete.

Timeline

- We will host information sessions leading up to the mailing of invitation letters
- Invitation letters will be mailed beginning in August 2021.
- Clinic visits will begin in September 2021 and last through late winter/early spring 2022.
- ATSDR estimates it may take up to two years to complete the full laboratory analysis and mail individual results, but there will be communication throughout this process.

Who is Eligible - Adults?

- An adult aged 18 years or older who
 - Lived in Newburgh or the Hoosick Falls area and used drinking water with documented PFAS contamination between 2005 and March 2016 in the Hoosick Falls area OR between 2005 and May 2016 in the City of Newburgh
 - Never worked as a firefighter
 - Never trained as a firefighter using AFFF foam
 - Never worked at an industrial facility that used PFAS chemicals in the manufacturing process

Who is Eligible - Children?

- A child aged 4 through 17 years who has parent or guardian's permission and
 - Lived in Newburgh or Hoosick Falls and used drinking water with documented PFAS contamination between 2005 and March 2016 in the Hoosick Falls area OR between 2005 and May 2016 in the City of Newburgh
 - Was born to and/or breastfed by a mother who meets the adult eligibility criteria

Recruitment

- We will mail invitation packets with instructions to potentially eligible households in the Hoosick Falls area and the City of Newburgh beginning in August 2021
- Potential participants will be asked to contact our study staff and complete an eligibility screen
- Invitation letters will be in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole in Newburgh, and Hoosick Falls, if needed
 - We will ask for the preferred language during the eligibility screening and send future materials in the preferred language.
- To finalize enrollment and schedule a clinic visit, call our toll free number (833) 732-7697
- Staff will also follow-up with those who have received invitations

Clinic Appointments

- Once an appointment is scheduled, we will mail a clinic appointment packet.
- The packet will include:
 - Appointment Reminder Card
 - Informed Consent materials
 - In addition to the main study, the NY Site will ask for consent to collect an additional blood sample and to receive access to stored blood samples from the DOH biomonitoring program
 - Study Fact Sheet
 - Appointment Prep Infographic
 - Urine collection supplies and instructions

Clinic Locations

- Newburgh – 327 Fullerton Road
- Hoosick Falls – 140 Main Street

Clinic Visit Activities

- For Adults, the clinic visit will last approximately 1.5 hours, including the following:
 - Sign In
 - Urine sample drop off
 - Height and weight measurements
 - Blood pressure check
 - Blood sample collection
 - Questionnaire completion, including residential, work, and medical history.
- For Children, the clinic visit will also include a neurobehavioral assessment, lasting 1.5 to 2 hours. This can be scheduled on a different day if needed. It will include:
 - Memory Games
 - Sorting items
 - Solving Puzzles
- We will also ask for consent to abstract medical and school records

Clinic Visit Exit

- In appreciation for their time, participants will receive at the end of the clinic visit:
 - \$25 gift card for blood pressure, and blood and urine sample collection
 - \$25 gift card for questionnaire completion
 - \$25 gift card for child/parent completion of the neurobehavioral assessment

Clinic Results

- We will send samples to a lab to analyze for PFAS levels and health measures.
- We will mail you a lab report with your blood results, including the following for both adults and kids.
 - Cholesterol
 - Thyroid hormones and sex hormones (in children)
 - Kidney function
 - Immune System
 - Liver enzymes
 - Lead, mercury, manganese and cadmium levels (NY Site Only)
- The report will also include urine analysis, including:
 - PFAS levels
 - Kidney function
- Participants are welcome to share this report with their primary care physician

Intended Use of Study Findings

- The study will help us understand how drinking PFAS-contaminated water affects human health.
- The researchers will provide advice and assistance to medical professionals in each community to help with interpreting results.
- The researchers will provide a summary of the aggregate study findings to each community.

Contact Information

Text: 518-898-0276

Email: PFAS@albany.edu

Call Toll Free: 1-833-732-7697

Website: <https://www.albany.edu/sph/pfas>

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