

## Who is conducting this study?

The study team consists of physicians and researchers at Children's Memorial Research Center and Children's Memorial Hospital in collaboration with the Clinical Research Unit.

### **Xiaobin Wang, MD, MPH, ScD**

Principal Investigator

### **Jacqueline Pongracic, MD**

Division head, Allergy

### **Rajesh Kumar, MD**

Attending physician, Allergy

### **Jennifer Kim, MD**

Attending physician, Allergy

### **Ramsay Fuleihan, MD**

Attending physician, Allergy

### **Rachel Story, MD**

Attending physician, Allergy

### **Ruchi Gupta, MD, MPH**

Attending physician, Pediatrics

### **Deanna Caruso, MS**

Project Coordinator

For more information about food allergy research:

**[childrensmrc.org/allergy](http://childrensmrc.org/allergy)**

For more information about food allergies:

**[childrensmemorial.org/depts/allergy](http://childrensmemorial.org/depts/allergy)**

### **Sponsors**

The study is supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Chicago Community Trust, Food Allergy Initiative and generous donors.

### **Children's Memorial Hospital**

#### **Food Allergy Study**

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Chicago, IL 60614-3363

**Phone: 1.888.573.1833 (toll free)**

**Email: [allergystudy@childrensmemorial.org](mailto:allergystudy@childrensmemorial.org)**

**Fax: 312.573.7825**

### **Locations**

Study visits are conducted in Chicago and suburban locations. The study team will make every effort to accommodate the study family's schedule and preferred location.

### **Why this study is special**

The Children's Memorial Food Allergy Study is a large, family-based food allergy study and holds great potential for scientific discovery and clinical translation. It is gaining momentum with the support of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Chicago Community Trust, Food Allergy Initiative, and generous donors.

*Children's Memorial Hospital seeks philanthropic support to strengthen its programs and services. For more information on funding opportunities that help children and families, please contact the Children's Memorial Foundation at 773.880.4237 or [foundation@childrensmemorial.org](mailto:foundation@childrensmemorial.org)*



Children's Memorial

# Food Allergy Study



  
**Children's  
Memorial  
Hospital**  
Where kids come first.™

## The startling increase

in the number of people with food allergies prompted the development of a multi-site research initiative headed by researchers and physicians at Children's Memorial Hospital and Children's Memorial Research Center.

Thirty years ago, food allergy was extremely rare. Today, 4.3 million U.S. children suffer from this potentially life-threatening condition. In fact, the number of children suffering with peanut allergy alone has doubled in five years – and the numbers continue to grow.

The study is designed to find answers to some fundamental questions: What are the causes of food allergy? How can food allergy be predicted and prevented? Are there alternative or better treatments for food allergy?

To date, the research team has recruited over 500 food allergy affected families. The team is seeking to enroll an additional 500 families to reach its goal of 1,000. The large sample size is necessary in order to have sufficient statistical power to study over a million genetic markers and environmental exposures that potentially affect food allergy.

Food allergies affect the lives of millions.  
There is no effective treatment except strict food avoidance.

## Participation in our study

### Is my family eligible for this study?

**Family-based design:** Eligible families have at least one food allergy affected child (ages 0 to 21 years) and both biological parents willing to participate in the study.

**Case-control design:** If both biological parents are unavailable to participate in the study, individual children (ages 0 to 21 years) that meet our case or control criteria are also eligible.

### What would our participation involve?

Participation in this study is completely voluntary. If you choose not to participate, each participant's medical care will not be affected in any way.

If you do choose to participate, you would be asked to complete a questionnaire about each participant's environmental exposures, diet, lifestyle and specific allergies.

A clinical evaluation would be conducted to measure each participant's height, weight, blood pressure, and lung function. A small blood sample (2 tsps) will be taken and allergy skin tests administered.

All evaluations will be done by a qualified research nurse or research associate.

Each participant will receive a \$25 gift card to Target, free parking, and additional gift card(s) to cover travel expenses.



### What are the benefits of participating in this study?

Children's Memorial is dedicated to providing excellent medical care, as well as conducting research that will benefit the lives of children. Your participation will contribute to uncovering the causes of food allergies and potentially lead to new treatments.

### How do we join?

To participate or for more information, contact us.

**Phone: 1.888.573.1833 (toll free)**

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**Fax: 312.573.7825**