

Dr Andrew Jackson,
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Dear Sir/ Madam,

I am contacting you on behalf of the Biomedical Research Unit based at the University of Nottingham and the Queens Medical Centre in Nottingham.

We are interested in identifying developing new tests and treatments for liver disease and currently have a number of research studies underway. For these studies to be successful we need to compare patients with liver disease to healthy people without liver disease. In order to be able to make better decisions it is important that these healthy people are of the same gender and a similar age to those people with liver disease. It is by comparing healthy people to those with liver disease that we can identify better treatments for patients.

Liver disease is more common in people over 40 years old. We therefore need to ask people in this age group to volunteer to come forward act as healthy controls in our studies. We are trying to target groups and organisations that fit into the demographics described above, for example, walking groups, sports clubs, community groups, educational establishments etc. Your organisation has been identified as one where there may be people who are willing to help us.

We would like to circulate a poster and covering information to your members (see below) either by posting on notice boards at your regular meeting place or electronically via insertion into newsletters or using e-mail circulation lists. We propose to do this by giving you the information to include in your regular contact with your members. At no point would we have any direct contact with your members unless they came forward to volunteer to help us.

If anyone does wish to help us in looking for new tests and treatments for liver disease they would make contact with us either by phone, email or via our web site. A research nurse will then be able to describe in detail what is involved and to answer any further questions.

We would appreciate it if you could discuss this with your organising committee and then let us know if you will be able to do anything to help us with this valuable medical research.

If you require any further information about our work please look at our web site <http://www.nddcbru.org.uk/> or phone Andrew Jackson on 0115 823 1036 for more details.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Andrew Jackson

Information to be included with the poster when circulated by e mail or in a newsletter.

At the Biomedical Research Unit based at the University of Nottingham and the Queens Medical Centre in Nottingham we are interested in identifying new treatments for liver disease and currently have a number of clinical trials underway. For these trials to be successful we need to compare patients with liver disease to healthy people without liver disease. In order to be able to make better decisions it is important that these healthy people are of the same gender and a similar age to those people with liver disease. It is by comparing healthy people to those with liver disease that we can identify better treatments for patients.

Liver disease is more common in people over 40 years old. We therefore need to ask people in this age group to volunteer to come forward act as healthy controls in our studies.

If you are interested in helping us look for new treatments for liver disease please make contact with us either by phone 0115 123 4567 email andy.jackson@nottingham.ac.uk or via our web site <http://www.nddcbru.org.uk> . A research nurse will then contact you to describe in detail what is involved and to answer any further questions.