

A Nicotine Vaccine: New Treatment To Be Tested in Madison

An innovative new approach to treating tobacco addiction—an experimental nicotine vaccine-- will be tested in Madison starting this month. It is designed to gradually reduce the amount of nicotine that gets to the brain, making cigarettes less addictive. The Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention (UW-CTRI), UW School of Medicine and Public Health, is recruiting approximately 40 current smokers to volunteer for this research study. Smokers who volunteer and qualify for this study will receive quit smoking counseling and may receive medication at no cost.

Likely participants are daily smokers at least 18 years of age, in good health and willing to follow the treatment procedures. Participants in the study will be asked to make up to 24 clinic visits over the space of a year.

“We are pleased to have been selected to test an experimental nicotine vaccine - a potentially important advance in treating tobacco addiction,” said Dr. Michael Fiore, UW-CTRI director. “In this study, we will examine how the vaccine can help smokers break free of their dependence on tobacco – by reducing the effects of nicotine on the brain.”

Participants will also receive payment to cover the time and transportation and/or parking for the clinic visits. Individuals who would like to volunteer for the study should call **1-877-END-CIGS** or go to **www.endcigs.com**.

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Every year 300,000 Wisconsin residents try to quit smoking. Most try to quit "cold turkey." Only 1 in 20 succeed. Most smokers make several quit attempts before they successfully quit.

Tobacco use is the number one cause of preventable disease and death in America. More than 400,000 Americans and more than 7000 Wisconsin residents die each year of illnesses caused by smoking. More than 70 percent of current adult smokers have stated that they want to quit smoking.

The Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, has provided cessation and prevention services in Wisconsin since 1992 and is a nationally recognized research center.

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