

UW-CTRI News Release

Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention, UW School of Medicine and Public Health

For Immediate Release June 26, 2007

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New Stop Smoking Medication being Tested in Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE—A new stop smoking, non-nicotine patch is being tested in the Milwaukee area. Approximately 75 people are being recruited to participate in the study being conducted by the UW School of Medicine and Public Health's Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention (UW-CTRI) and is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

The medication, selegiline, has been approved by the FDA for treatment of other conditions. This is the first time selegiline will be used to treat smoking. It is applied as a skin patch.

"With a potential increase in the cost of cigarettes and increased workplace smoking restrictions, Milwaukee smokers may welcome the opportunity to participate in this trial," said Dr. Thomas Jackson, the study's principal investigator and UW professor emeritus.

All smokers participating in the study will receive individual counseling and either the new stop smoking medicine or a placebo. They will also receive a free study physical. Smokers in the study will be asked to attend several sessions and will be followed up for six months. They will receive a small payment to cover the time and expense of making clinic visits.

New Stop
Smoking Study

Call
1-866-END-CIGS
or go to

www.endcigs.com

Selegiline works to reduce or eliminate negative withdrawal symptoms by maintaining levels of dopamine in the body. Dopamine is stimulated by nicotine when an individual smokes and its reduction can cause withdrawal symptoms or depression. Selegiline has been used in the past to treat depression.

“The connection between dopamine and smoking has long been known,” said Dr. Jackson. “Therefore, it is reasonable to believe that medications that maintain dopamine levels in the brain can help smokers quit by easing withdrawal symptoms.”

Likely participants are daily smokers at least 18 years old who want to quit and who will follow the treatment procedures. To volunteer, Milwaukee area smokers can call **1-866-END-CIGS** (toll-free) or log on to www.endcigs.com . The study is being conducted at UW-CTRI offices at Aurora Sinai Medical Center, Physicians Office Building, Suite 501, 1218 W. Kilbourn Ave. Milwaukee.

UW-CTRI has provided cessation and prevention services in Wisconsin since 1992 and is a nationally recognized research center. The Center has conducted research in Milwaukee to help smokers quit for more than 10 years.

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