

## Clinical trials information

### CMV and interferon

This trial is **concluded**. This means the trial has been completed. When the results of the trial have been made public, they will be summarised in the 'outcomes' section of this page. You cannot enrol in this trial.

#### About this trial

The study is evaluating how well interferon-gamma works for people who have cytomegalovirus (CMV) or have had it in the past. Part of the study will look at how people progress over time after they have started [antiretroviral](#) medication or other substance which is active against retroviruses such as HIV. therapy.

#### Background information

Cytomegalovirus (CMV) or Human cytomegalovirus (HCMV) is an opportunistic infection. The virus is very common. Between 50% and 85% of people test positive for CMV by the time they are 40 years old. A healthy immune system keeps this virus in check.

Combination antiretroviral therapy has reduced the rate of active CMV in people with HIV by 75%. However, about 5% of people with HIV still develop CMV disease.

When the immune defenses are weak, CMV can attack several parts of the body. The most common illness caused by CMV is retinitis. This is the death of cells in the retina at the back of the eye. It can quickly cause blindness unless treated. CMV can spread throughout the body and infect several organs at once.

The risk of CMV is highest when CD4 cell counts are below 50. It is rare in people with 100 or more T-cells. The first signs of CMV retinitis are vision problems such as moving black spots. These are called "floaters." They may indicate an inflammation of the retina. People may also notice light flashes, decreased or distorted vision, or blind spots. Some doctors recommend eye exams to catch CMV retinitis. The exams are done by an ophthalmologist (an eye specialist).

If your CD4 count is below 100 and you experience any vision problems, tell your doctor immediately.

Some people who have recently started using antiretrovirals can get inflammation in their eyes, causing loss of vision. In these cases it is part of a syndrome called immune restoration.

#### Official title:

Evaluation of Interferon-Gamma Responses to HCMV Infection in HIV Positive Individuals

#### What is this trial studying?

tx\_strategy – interferon

#### Start date:

2004 (This may be the proposed or expected start date for trials which have not yet started.)

#### How many participants will this trial enrol?

## CMV and interferon

From the NAPWA website at <http://www.napwa.org.au/trials/cmV-and-interferon>

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20 (The exact number of participants may be lower or slightly higher than this. Some trials also have specific quotas for participants from each state, city or clinic.)

### Links to further information:

- <http://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00168259?term=HIV&recr=Open&cond=HIV&cntry1=PA%3AAU&rank=9>

### Who can enrol in this trial?

You *may* be eligible to participate in this trial if you meet the following criteria:

- At least 18 years old
- Documented CMV infection and starting on antiretrovirals

This is a summary of key inclusion and exclusion criteria for this trial. There may be other criteria which may exclude some people from participation in this trial. Some laboratory tests may also be required. Consult your doctor, or view the trial protocol or informed consent documentation to see the full range of exclusion and inclusion criteria.

### Disclaimer

While NAPWA has taken every care to compile the information on this page and to keep it up-to-date, we cannot guarantee its correctness and completeness.

Before making the decision to participate in any clinical research, visit the NAPWA website for background information on participating in clinical research.

Contact NAPWA if you have any questions or comments about this trial.