



Multi-site PFAS Health Study

Learning More About PFAS and Health



Two New York communities were chosen as part of the first national study to look at exposures to PFAS from drinking water. What we learn by working with other researchers nationwide will benefit all communities across New York State and the U.S.

About the Study

The Multi-site PFAS Health Study includes people from the Hoosick Falls Area and the City of Newburgh. Researchers will look closely at the role PFAS may play in various health outcomes by analyzing results from blood tests, health-related lab tests, and medical and exposure histories.



This study is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

New York's effort is led by researchers from the New York State Department of Health and the University at Albany.

Additional Multi-site PFAS Health Study communities are located in California, Colorado, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

What are PFAS?

PFAS, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, are human-made chemicals used since the 1950s in a variety of products, including some cosmetics; water, grease, and oil-resistant products; and some fire fighting foams. PFAS may travel through soil into groundwater, and then into sources of drinking water.



Multi-site PFAS Health Study Goals

This study will help scientists and communities learn more about PFAS and human health effects including:

- Increased cholesterol levels
- Changes in liver enzymes
- Decreased vaccine response in children
- Behavioral and developmental outcomes in children
- Increased risk of high blood pressure or preeclampsia in pregnant women
- Small decreases in infant birth weights

Learn more: www.health.ny.gov/ChemicalsandHealth and www.albany.edu/sph/pfas





Multi-site PFAS Health Study

Hoosick Falls Area and Newburgh



Information for Communities

If you live in the Hoosick Falls Area or in the City of Newburgh you may be invited to take part in the national Multi-site PFAS Health Study. About 1,000 adults and 300 children from these communities will be randomly selected to join the study. Please consider taking part if you receive an invitation letter. The more people who participate, the more we'll learn about how PFAS in drinking water affects health.



What We Will Measure

With your permission, trained health professionals will:

- Collect and test blood and urine samples
- Take body measurements
- Ask about medical and exposure histories
- Study development in child participants.

We will collect information about PFAS levels and your health to learn more about your immune system, kidney, liver, and thyroid function. We will collect data about your cholesterol levels and ask you about some diseases like diabetes. We will also explore if certain metals (lead, mercury, manganese, and cadmium) combined with PFAS exposure are related to developmental outcomes in children and neurological outcomes in adults. Researchers will also collect information about cancers, but the size of the study is not large enough to effectively evaluate the relationship between PFAS exposure and cancer.

We may ask permission to access medical records and educational records in children. We may also ask permission to access newborn screening samples already on file to test them for PFAS exposure for participants born in New York between 1998 and 2018 to mothers who lived in the Hoosick Falls Area or in Newburgh during this time frame.

What are PFAS?

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All personal information collected as part of this study will be kept private and secure. Individual test results and final reports will be shared with participants.

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Other Study Areas

El Paso County, CO: Colorado School of Public Health, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

Parchment/Cooper Township and Belmont/Rockford area, MI: Michigan State Department of Health and Human Services

Bucks and Montgomery Counties, PA: RTI International and Pennsylvania Department of Health

Gloucester County, NJ: Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences – School of Public Health

Hyannis and Ayer, MA: Silent Spring Institute

Communities near the UC Irvine Medical Center, CA: University of California – Irvine

Learn More



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Department of Health



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