Do you have Propionic acidemia and are between the ages of 6-40 years of age?

Participate in a MRI Study at Children’s National Medical Center (CNMC) and Georgetown

CNMC and Georgetown are seeking patients with propionic acidemia (PA) between the ages of 6-40 to participate in a study on brain function in PA.

This study will investigate brain function and metabolism in PA relative to healthy control subjects to understand how having PA interferes with cognitive functioning.

This study is being conducted with researchers in Washington, D.C. at CNMC and the Center for Functional and Molecular Imaging (CFMI) at Georgetown University.

What does participation mean?
- MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) which takes a picture of your brain. It is safe and there are no injections
- You must be able to lie still as we don’t use any sedation medication
- You will also be asked to play memory games and complete some cognitive testing
- You will also perform testing while wearing a headband that measures changes in blood flow when you perform a task. This is called functional near infrared spectroscopy (fNIRs) and uses lights to make maps of brain function and is safe and non invasive.

To be eligible to participate, you must:
- Be between the ages of 6-40 years old
- Have no metal in the body
- Be able to follow written and verbal instructions in English, but English does not have to be your first language
- Be a male or female PA patient

You are not eligible to participate if:
- You are outside the age ranges listed
- You are pregnant
- You have any metal in your body that is not safe with MRI or have braces or permanent retainers on the teeth which degrades the MRI pictures
- You are claustrophobic and can’t have MRI without sedation
- You have a significant history of neuropsychiatric illness or drug use or are metabolically unstable at the time of the study

Compensation is available: plus parking and local travel
Contact Information:
To schedule a phone interview and testing visits, subjects may contact us at either our Washington D.C Macy Curell 202-687-7823 (study coordinator) mac518@georgetown.edu or Dr. Gropman agropman@childrensnational.org