



Dear Colleague,

I am writing to make you aware of an important clinical trial supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) that we are conducting at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC (Oakland) and at some of the affiliated PittNet practices. The study evaluates the efficacy of antibiotics in children with acute sinusitis to determine which subgroups benefit from immediate antibiotic therapy.

We invite you to actively participate in this research program by referring parents of children, ages 2 through 11 years, who have prolonged or worsening respiratory tract infections. We will keep you updated about the enrollment and progress of your patients participating in our study. Our purpose is not to assume the care of your patients, but only to carefully follow this group of children.

As you know, sinusitis is one of the most common illnesses in children. Sinusitis is often treated with antibiotics, although it can resolve without the use of them. Antibiotics can have side effects, such as diarrhea or allergic reactions, and can lead to antibiotic resistance in patients. It is not clear which treatment option is better, and as such, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends physicians either start patients on antibiotics or observe them for a few days before deciding on the need for antibiotics. Through this study, we hope to define criteria to determine which option is better for which patients.

The study will enroll nearly 700 patients at multiple participating sites through the year 2020. Children will be randomly assigned to either 10 days of a placebo or the antimicrobial amoxicillin-clavulanate. Participants' symptoms will be closely monitored by our team during their enrollment, and they will receive additional care if their condition worsens. You can find information about this study on Children's web site at chp.edu/sinus.

Thank you for your support of our research program. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 412-996-COLD (2653) or via email, nader.shaikh@chp.edu.

Very truly yours,

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