

Cystic Fibrosis Trial Information: Share International Foundation

Summary: Share International Foundation is currently seeking cystic fibrosis (CF) patients to participate in a study to determine the efficacy of a novel supplement to treat this condition. Share is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to research new therapies for cystic fibrosis.

Overview: After extensive research, Share has developed a supplement which may address the basic defect of cystic fibrosis. Research indicates that the basic defect of CF results from an intracellular imbalance of several compounds in the CF cell, due to faulty trafficking of a defective CFTR protein. The active compound of Share's supplement, benzyl-isothiocyanate, is a natural substance, derived from papaya seeds. Analysis of Share's research supports the idea that this compound will activate an alternate channel in the cell, the multi-drug resistance protein (MDR), and, in doing so, help restore cellular balance. (See Pubmed article 16934416 for more details).

Purpose: Because fatty acid levels are generally abnormal in CF patients, the purpose of the trial is to determine the effectiveness of the supplement, and to measure the extent of its effect in regulating fatty acid levels.

Process and Duration: After having passed the screening process, subjects will participate in the trial for approximately four weeks. At the outset, a blood test will determine the baseline level of fatty acid composition. For three consecutive weeks, blood tests will be conducted once a week to compare fatty acid levels with the baseline.

Inclusion Criteria:

- Male subjects, aged 18 years or older.
- Delta F508 homozygote.
- South Florida resident, or be able to travel to the South Florida area.

A \$400.00 stipend will be paid to each subject who completes the trial.

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