



## **A STUDY OF WALKING AND BALANCE IN FRIEDREICH ATAXIA**

The USF Ataxia Research Center, located at the Morsani Center for Advanced Health Care, is looking for people with Friedreich's ataxia for a research study to evaluate changes in walking and balance in people with Friedreich's ataxia. The study involves 3-4 single day visits over a 12 month period.



### **Who can participate?**

- Individuals with Friedreich's ataxia
- Have genetic confirmation of diagnosis
- Aged 7 years and above
- Individuals who can walk with or without any support (cane, walker, crutches OK)
- Capable of completing all study tests

### **What is involved?**

- Your walking pattern will be assessed with an electronic walkway with pressure sensors which records footstep patterns as you walk along the walkway.
- You will complete a number of balance tests and a physical exam of muscle strength and coordination. Testing will take 2-3 hours.

**Morsani College of Medicine • Department of Neurology**  
University of South Florida, 12901 Bruce B. Downs Blvd., MDC-55, Tampa, FL 33612

USF IRB Pro21414

PI : Theresa Zesiewicz, MD



- You will also be asked to wear a monitor, strapped to your upper arm, to measure your everyday activity levels at home, over seven days.

*Reimbursement for travel expenses is available and accommodation for participants is also accessible.*

If you are interested or have questions, please contact USF Ataxia Research Center, Study Coordinator, phone: 813-974-5909 or email: [jshaw@health.usf.edu](mailto:jshaw@health.usf.edu)