



TRACK-FA NEWSLETTER

TRACK-FA is a longitudinal natural history study that tracks brain and spinal cord changes in individuals with Friedreich's ataxia (FA). We have a team of researchers from Australia, USA, Germany, Brazil and Canada in collaboration with global industry partners. We test the potential value of neuroimaging biomarkers and provide a basis to include them in future clinical trials.

AT A GLANCE

What have we achieved so far?

107 individuals have participated globally ranging from 6 to 42 years old, including 78 Friedreich's ataxia participants and 29 control participants.

Test Statistics

- 390 clinical tests completed
- 107 blood samples collected
- 107 MRI sessions completed
- 276 cognitive and mood assessments completed
- 107 speech assessments completed.

We have many more interested participants who are awaiting their appointments. We are aiming to reach our target recruitment by the end of May 2023.

Why biomarkers?

Measuring the impact of treatments for Friedreich's ataxia is challenging. Biomarkers can help us understand if treatments are targeting the right tissues in the brain and spinal cord more quickly. This will be important for next generation gene therapies that aim to target a specific region of the brain and/or spinal cord.

What's next for this global study?

TRACK-FA is continuing to recruit new participants for baseline visits across a broad demographic. Our earliest participants started follow-up visits in February 2022.

Our first set of imaging data has been processed and measurements compared across sites and study groups.

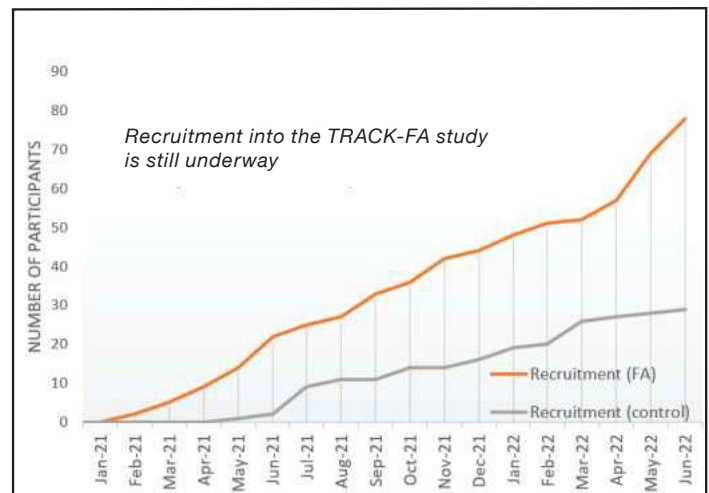
When all baseline visits are complete, we will start to look for relationships between these measurements and factors such as disease severity, age of onset and genetics.

PARTICIPANT RECRUITMENT by SITE as of July 2022*

STUDY SITE	Recruitment	Target Recruitment
Melbourne	13	47
Aachen	19	41
Minnesota	15	47
Florida	21	36
Campinas	0	69
CHOP	39	67
Montréal	0	23

*Does not include future bookings.

RECRUITMENT STATISTICS as of July 2022



COVID-19 IMPACT

Recruitment has unfortunately been significantly affected by the COVID-19 global pandemic. We aim to push through this adversity and are ensuring that all sites comply with all COVID-19 related guidelines as we continue recruitment and testing.

WE ARE CURRENTLY RECRUITING

Enrollment for TRACK-FA is currently open.

Inclusion criteria (partial) FA participants:

- Genetically confirmed FA
- Age of onset \leq 25 years
- Disease duration \leq 25 years
- Disease stage: primarily ambulatory (with and without assistance).

Inclusion criteria control participants:

- Age \geq 5 years
- Able to provide written informed consent.

Exclusion criteria (partial) FA & control:

- Pacemaker, other metallic surgical implants, metallic braces
- Pregnancy
- Other ongoing medical conditions, including psychiatric and neurological diagnoses (speak with the site investigator).

We are recruiting control participants that match for sex, age, years of education and handedness. If you know someone that matches yourself, and is interested in participating as a control, please ask them to contact one of the researchers from your site.



For more information, you can visit the TRACK-FA website:

<https://www.monash.edu/medicine/trackfa>

Thank you for your ongoing participation in this very important study. We look forward to seeing you again on your next visit!

CONTACT

If you would like to participate and think that you may meet the eligibility criteria, please get in touch with your closest site from the list below.

Melbourne, Australia

Monash University
Study contact: Louise Corben
E: louise.corben@mcri.edu.au | T: +61 (3) 8341 6228

Gainesville, Florida, USA

University of Florida
Study contact: Samantha Norman
E: Samantha.Norman@peds.ufl.edu | T: (352) 273-8218

Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA

University of Minnesota
Study contact: Diane Hutter
E: hutte019@umn.edu | T: (612) 625-2350

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Study contact: Syama Patel
E: patels60@chop.edu | T: 267-425-1153

Campinas, Brazil

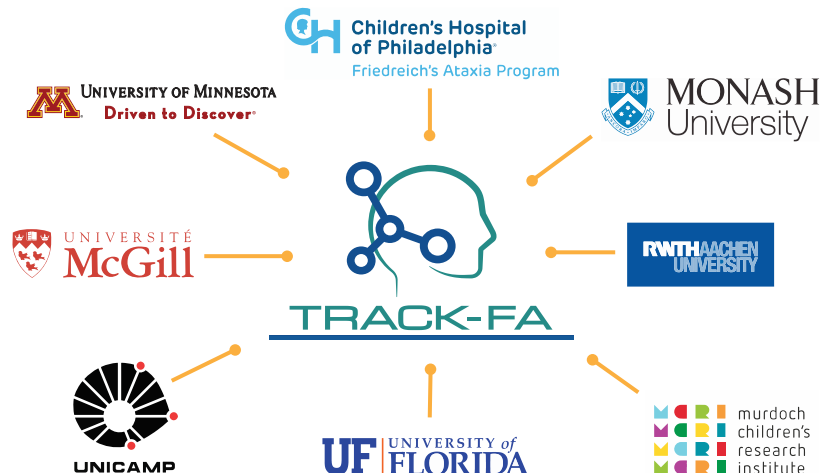
University of Campinas
Study contact: Fernanda Bittar, PhD
E: bittarfernanda1@gmail.com | T: +55 19 98128004

Aachen, Germany

University Hospital RWTH Aachen
Study contact: Imis Dogan
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Montréal, Canada

McGill University
Study contact: Martin Chevrier
E: martin.chevrier2@mcgill.ca | T: 514-398-2538



OUR PARTNERS

