A Note from REPRIEVE Leadership

Dear REPRIEVE Participants,

On behalf of the entire REPRIEVE team, we want to thank you for your participation in this landmark trial. REPRIEVE is the first-ever, large scale clinical trial to test whether a once-daily statin medication can prevent cardiovascular disease among people living with HIV. Your participation is crucial to REPRIEVE’s success, and additionally, you are making a meaningful contribution to the pursuit of important new medical knowledge for the field.

While REPRIEVE has come a long way in its first year, we have much more work to do to hit our goal of 6,500 participants in the trial. We are very grateful to you for making the commitment to REPRIEVE and now, we need your help to spread the word about this important study. By sharing the mission of REPRIEVE with your friends, family, and acquaintances, you can help us reach the 6,500 participant goal and ultimately, define a successful strategy for heart disease prevention in those with HIV. Again, we want to thank you for your time and your dedication to fighting heart disease.

Sincerely,

Steven Grinspoon, MD  
Co-Principal Investigator

Pamela Douglas  
Co-Principal Investigator

Udo Hoffmann, MD, MPH  
Co-Principal Investigator

Heather Ribaudo, PhD  
Co-Principal Investigator

Happy Anniversary from the NIH!

On this first anniversary of the first participant’s enrollment in REPRIEVE, the federal sponsors of the study, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, parts of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), want to acknowledge the progress this landmark study has made so far, thanks to your participation.

REPRIEVE is an international, multicenter trial and will provide the most rigorous evidence ever collected on whether statin therapy prevents major cardiovascular disease events, like heart attack and stroke, in HIV positive people who are on antiretroviral therapy (ART) and who do not meet standard guidelines for statin therapy.

What We are Working Toward

Because cardiovascular disease occurs more frequently in HIV positive people than the general population, the question of preventing cardiovascular events in the HIV population is a highly relevant, practical question. If the study successfully achieves a result, it will provide quality evidence for patients and providers for best care practices and the result may change clinical care and ultimately save lives. Answering this important question is dependent on the successful enrollment and conduct of REPRIEVE.

Next Phase of Enrollment Begins

NIH acknowledges the tremendous efforts of every site and study participant. The study is working to increase enrollment, and truly values your participation in the trial. We are pleased to share that adherence to the study drug and retention in the trial have been excellent to date, thanks in large part to your engagement with this study.

With gratitude,

Patrice Desivgne-Nickens, MD, NHLBI Program Officer  
Sarah Read, MD, Director, NIAID Therapeutics Research Program
Why should I take another medication?
Pitavastatin is a type of drug known as a “statin”. Taking a statin may have long-term health benefits, like reducing your risk of heart attack or stroke. Since people with HIV have a greater risk of heart attack or stroke, we are testing to see if pitavastatin may prevent these conditions. Remember, the study medication is only 1 pill daily.

Why does my participation matter?
You are making a meaningful contribution to the pursuit of new medical knowledge that could have lasting benefits for the current and future generations of people with HIV, and even the general population.

The Importance of Reporting a Heart Disease Event
In REPRIEVE, we collect information from you about heart disease events, like heart attacks or strokes, at almost every visit; this information will let us know if the statin used in REPRIEVE works effectively. Based on what you tell us during your study visit, and with your permission, REPRIEVE staff obtains information to confirm some of the medical conditions you may report during your participation in REPRIEVE. It is important to mention during a study visit if you have been told by a provider that you experienced a certain heart disease event, like a heart attack, stroke, chest pain or any hospitalizations so that we can obtain additional details about these diagnoses.

Have you heard about the REPRIEVE Women’s Objectives?
An important aim of REPRIEVE is to examine how factors unique to women, such as female hormones, affect heart disease risk. We will also determine whether pitavastatin lowers heart disease risk in women as well as it lowers risk in men. A campaign called “Follow YOUR Heart” will be launched soon, and education materials and a special video will be available on a women’s page off the REPRIEVE website – stay tuned. Once the women’s page is live, you will be able to reach it by clicking the “Follow YOUR Heart” tab off of the main REPRIEVE page: www.REPRIEVEtrial.org.

Questions, concerns, or suggestions?
We’d love to hear feedback on the newsletter! We regret that we cannot answer questions about individual medical conditions.
Email Katie Fitch, Project Manager kfitch@partners.org

Thank you to our supporters: