

CLEAR Consortium

Study Overview

[CLEAR \(Congenital Esophageal and Airway Defect Research\) Consortium](#) aims to discover the genetic and developmental causes of trachea-esophageal birth defects. CLEAR is an international research study, funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and lead by Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and Columbia University Medical Center, that consists of a highly collaborative multidisciplinary team of clinicians, geneticists, surgeons, bioinformaticians, developmental biologists, and stem cell biologists from six international institutions.

Consortium goals include:

- Discover mutations that cause trachea-esophageal defects to understand the underlying mechanisms of trachea and esophageal development
- Improve the treatment of trachea-esophageal birth defects
- Explore the possibility of generating human stem cells that might ultimately be used in transplantation



Participating in the Study

We invite families to participate in this groundbreaking research. More than 172 patients from 14 countries around the world are already involved!

- To participate, a small blood sample is required from children and/or adults with esophageal atresia (EA) or tracheoesophageal fistula (TEF) and their parents. Medical information about the person with EA/TEF in your family will also be obtained.
- Participation in the study is completely free and families from all over the world are eligible to take part.
- Interested families can be enrolled and kits can be mailed to your home to conveniently provide your sample for the study.



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