

Is a leaky gut and intestinal microbes a cause for myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome?

## PATIENT-FUNDED RESEARCH

### Have you been diagnosed with ME/CFS?

- We are seeking 140 ME/CFS patients to donate a one-off blood and stool sample
- To take part, you must have ME/CFS diagnosed in this clinic without significant anxiety and depression

### What is the study about?

- 'Leaky gut' syndrome has been proposed to cause or contribute to the development of ME/CFS and its many symptoms
- Researchers can assess blood and stool samples for evidence of leaky gut by detecting the presence of microbes that may have 'leaked' from inside the gut into the general blood circulation

### What is involved?

- You will only be required to make two visits to this hospital. The first to give your consent, at which point you'll receive a stool sampling kit. The second visit will allow you to return your stool sample and have your blood taken
- For more information about the study please email consultant Dr Amolak Bansal or Jacqueline Cunningham. **You may also ask for the study documents at reception**
- You will receive a patient information sheet describing in further detail what is required to take part and instructions to arrange an appointment
- **Please insert 'Leaky Gut Project' into the subject heading of your email**

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