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MINOCycline in the Treatment of Atheroma that are Unstable or Ruptured Study (MINOTAUR)

Participant Information Sheet Summary

A major cause of a stroke is narrowing of blood vessels (called arteries) supplying blood to the brain. This study investigates how narrowing is caused by fatty deposits ('plaques') that can harden due to small deposits of calcium ('microcalcification'). In this study, we use a specialist scan called Positron Emission Tomography (PET) to measure microcalcification in your arteries, and whether it can be treated with a drug (minocycline).

You have been invited to participate in the study because the investigations performed after your stroke have shown the presence of plaques in your arteries. We hope that by understanding how plaques develop after stroke and how they respond to drug treatment, we can potentially develop new therapies for stroke.

If you choose to take part, you would have two PET scans of your neck: one in the couple of weeks after your stroke, and another around three months after your stroke to see if there are any changes. In between these scans, half of the participants in the study will be asked to take minocycline, a commonly-used antibiotic used to treat acne. We would also ask your permission to perform a blood test to measure the progression of calcification when you have each scan. You will be seen by a member of the clinical research team at each visit. Your participation in the study (and any drug treatment) will end after the second scan.

You are not under an obligation to take part in the study and should decide for yourself whether you wish to participate. Taking part in the study will not interfere with the treatment for your stroke. If you decide to take part but later change your mind, you are free to withdraw at any time.

Further information about the study may be found in the Participant Information Sheet or by contacting a member of the stroke research team (contact details given above).