

Building a picture of inflammatory arthritis in cystic fibrosis

Submission date 05/09/2017	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
		<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 11/09/2017	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 22/09/2017	Condition category Musculoskeletal Diseases	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data
		<input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

Cystic Fibrosis is a condition that causes the lungs and digestive system clogged with mucus. Cystic Fibrosis associated arthropathy (CFA) is a condition thought to affect up to 10% of the CF population. It causes joint pain and swelling which is often intermittent, but which may become long-lasting. The aim of this study is to review patients with CF and inflammatory musculoskeletal symptoms with the aim of better understanding the phenotype and range of this condition. This will help to identify patients who need further investigation and treatment for joint symptoms. It will also aid future studies considering treatment options for this condition.

Who can participate?

Patients aged 16 or over who have CF, and who report joint swelling, morning stiffness, or impact on activities of daily living due to joint symptoms as well as patients with CF who do not have joint issues.

What does the study involve?

Participants are asked to attend an appointment for a clinical history and examination to be completed, and an ultrasound of their joints. Following this review, participants are asked to reattend only if their joint symptoms flare. They are asked to contact the CF unit should this occur. A follow-up telephone call is used at the end of the study period to confirm flare patterns. Participants with CF without joint disease have one visit combined with a routine clinic visit to include blood tests and ultrasound along with a clinical examination. They will also have a telephone call at the end of the study to ensure that they have not developed joint symptoms in the intervening time period.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

Participants may benefit from better identification for patients seen with inflammatory joint disease so that treatment options may be discussed (in current form, evidence for these is extrapolated from other rheumatic diseases). In some cases, identification that pain is not currently associated with inflammation in the joint, and advice can be given on this basis and other associations with pain looked for. There are risks of bruising and minor discomfort for blood tests. There is a small risk of radiation with the ultrasounds associated with x-rays of

symptomatic joints - these will only be carried out if they would be done so in routine clinical practice.

Where is the study run from?

1. Manchester Adult Cystic Fibrosis Centre (UK)
2. Leeds Adult Cystic Fibrosis Centre (UK)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

April 2017 to November 2018

Who is funding the study?

1. CF trust (UK)
2. Manchester Adult CF unit (UK)
3. Leeds University (UK)

Who is the main contact?

Dr Elizabeth Clarke

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Contact information

Type(s)

Public

Contact name

Dr Elizabeth Clarke

ORCID ID

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6703-6281>

Contact details

Manchester Adult Cystic Fibrosis Unit
University Hospital South Manchester
Manchester
United Kingdom
M23 9LT

Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

awaited

Study information

Scientific Title

Identifying a Phenotype in Cystic Fibrosis Associated Arthritis

Acronym

PAC

Study objectives

This study aims to review patients with CF and inflammatory musculoskeletal symptoms with the aim of better understanding the phenotype and range of this condition.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Not provided at time of registration.

Study design

Observational cohort with control arm

Primary study design

Observational

Study type(s)

Diagnostic

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Cystic Fibrosis Associated Arthropathy

Interventions

This is an observational study looking at cystic fibrosis associated arthropathy patterns of disease, to include clinical history and examination, serology, and ultrasound.

Patients with CF who have inflammatory-sounding joint symptoms are recruited to this observational cohort study. Participants attend a baseline visit in which they are seen by the clinical fellow to gain background medical information, a clinical examination, collect blood tests and complete an ultrasound of joints when they are not flaring. Xrays of joints are requested only for patients in whom it would be clinically indicated (unremitting or longstanding pain and swelling). Joint aspiration is carried out only where there is a significant effusion, in which case it would be clinically indicated. Investigation with blood tests includes inflammatory markers; urate (for gout); rheumatoid factor and anti CCP (associated with rheumatoid arthritis) and HLA-B27 (associated with seronegative spondyloarthropathies). Participants are then seen as and when their joint symptoms flare in order to characterise the patterns of events and to gain clinical examination data, ultrasound imaging and bloods to gain a better picture of the disease. A telephone call at the end of the study is used to confirm patterns of disease flare over the study period.

25 patients with CF who do not have joint disease act as healthy control participants. These patients will have one visit combined with a routine clinic visit to include a medical history and clinical examination, blood tests and ultrasound.

Intervention Type

Other

Primary outcome(s)

Patterns of disease identified by clinical manifestation, ultrasound findings and serology over a 9 month follow-up.

Key secondary outcome(s))

There are no secondary outcome measures.

Completion date

01/11/2018

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Cystic Fibrosis
2. Peripheral joint disease including current or previous joint swelling affecting activities of daily living
3. Aged over 16
4. Attendance at either the Manchester or Leeds CF centre

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

1. Joint problems that when reviewed sound primarily biomechanical or have another non-inflammatory cause
2. Under 16 years

Date of first enrolment

14/10/2017

Date of final enrolment

14/12/2018

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre

Manchester Adult Cystic Fibrosis Unit
University Hospitals South Manchester

Wythenshawe
Manchester
United Kingdom
M23 9LT

Study participating centre
Leeds Cystic Fibrosis Centre
Gledhow Wing
Beckett Street
Leeds
United Kingdom
LS9 7TF

Sponsor information

Organisation
University Hospital South Manchester

ROR
<https://ror.org/00he80998>

Funder(s)

Funder type
Charity

Funder Name
Cystic Fibrosis Trust

Alternative Name(s)
Cystic Fibrosis, cystic fibrosis (CF), CF

Funding Body Type
Private sector organisation

Funding Body Subtype
Trusts, charities, foundations (both public and private)

Location
United Kingdom

Funder Name

Manchester Adult Cystic Fibrosis Unit

Funder Name

Leeds University

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study is not expected to be made available due to the raw data will be held separately from any patient identifiers for 5 years by the trust (UHSM) who are our sponsor. Requests for access would be via the trust but generally the information has been gather for a specific reason (this study) and could not therefore be used for another purpose.

IPD sharing plan summary

Not expected to be made available

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes