



**School of Medicine
and Public Health**
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

Research Participant Information Sheet

Title of Study: Blood Type Distribution in Autoimmune Diseases: A Large-Scale, Self-Report, Anonymous Survey

UW Madison IRB Exempt Project: 2017-0545

Study Investigator: Edward S Harris, MS, Dept. of Medicine, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, USA

About this study: Edward S Harris, MS, Dept. of Medicine and Miroslav Malkovsky, MD, PhD, Dept. of Medical Microbiology and Immunology at UW Madison, are co-investigators for a preliminary study designed to determine if blood type may be a factor in developing an autoimmune disease. As an initial stage of this investigation, we are surveying patients diagnosed with five autoimmune diseases:

- Systemic Sclerosis (Scleroderma)
- Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Psoriasis
- Ankylosing Spondylitis

Upon completion of this study, we should have preliminary answers to two important questions:

- 1) Is the distribution of blood types in each of these diseases the same as in the general population?
- 2) Does blood type distribution differ among these different autoimmune diseases?

If you choose to be in the study, we will ask you to complete an anonymous, two-question survey. The survey should take less than a minute to complete:

- What is your blood type?
- What is your country of birth?

The reason why we are asking country of birth is that blood type distributions differ significantly in different countries. Knowing country of birth allows us to do correct statistical analysis using weighted country norms.

The survey is anonymous, and no one will be able to link your answers back to you. Please do not include your name or other information that could be used to identify you in the survey responses.

If you have any questions about this study, please contact:

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