

HOPES Trial

Hypothermia for Patients requiring Evacuation of Subdural Hematoma (HOPES) Trial.

A Traumatic Brain Injury can affect anyone.

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is a leading cause of death in individuals younger than 44. We have yet to find a treatment that improves the outcome of a brain injured patient. Doctors at Emory University and Grady Memorial Hospital are starting a new clinical trial to find a treatment for TBI.

After a brain injured patient arrives at Grady's Trauma Center, they may be enrolled in the HOPES Trial (over the age of 22). There is some evidence that hypothermia may be able to slow the progression and improve the swelling that occurs after the injury. The HOPES Trial is seeking to prove the benefit of induced hypothermia (low body temperature).

To qualify, patients must have had a specific type of brain injury (subdural hematoma). This injury must require an emergency surgery as part of the normal treatment. During and after surgery, the body's temperature will be cooled to lower than normal body temperature (induced hypothermia) or normal body temperature. The researchers will try and determine if one is more effective than the other. The cooling will last a minimum of 48 hours and up to five days.

Due to the emergent nature of traumatic brain hemorrhage and urgency to get these patients into the operating room, doctors will use a special rule called Exception from Informed Consent (EFIC) to avoid delay of treatment. Normally, researchers get permission before a person can be included in a study. However, due to the severe brain injury, the consent process is not possible. When appropriate, the patient or legally authorized representative will be given full written and verbal consent to continue participation in the research study.

If you would like more information about the study, please contact us by e-mail or phone. We would be happy to answer questions you have.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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