

T-BIRD: Tissue Biomechanics and Inflammation in the Rheumatic Diseases

ACTRN12617000170325

Status	RECRUITING
Sponsor	Dr Stephen Oakley
Enrollment	375 participants

Plain Language Summary

This study is investigating whether the stiffness of tissues (like joints, skin, and blood vessels) plays a role in the development and severity of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and psoriatic arthritis (PsA). Most research has focused on the immune system attacking the joints, but this study explores a new idea — that connective tissue properties might also drive disease development and heart disease risk. It recruits people with RA, psoriatic arthritis, psoriasis, as well as healthy volunteers and people with benign joint hypermobility.

You may be eligible if:

- You are aged 18 to 80 years old
- You have ACPA-positive rheumatoid arthritis, OR you are a first-degree relative of someone with RA, OR you have a positive ACPA blood test without RA, OR you have psoriatic arthritis, OR you have skin psoriasis without arthritis
- OR you are a healthy person unrelated to anyone with RA
- OR you have benign joint hypermobility

You may NOT be eligible if:

- You have conditions affecting the skin such as lupus, scleroderma, or heavy alcohol use (for a sub-study involving a syringe test)
- You have already had corticosteroid treatment (for the main study groups)

Talk to your doctor about whether this trial might be right for you.

Key Eligibility Criteria

Inclusion (13)

- Main Study
- Case Groups
- ACPA-positive Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA);
- People at risk of developing ACPA-positive RA;
- a. First Degree Relatives of people with ACPA-Positive RA;
- ... and 8 more (see full listing online)

Exclusion (5)

- Main Study
- Syringe Test Sub-Study
- Conditions affecting the skin such as psoriasis, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, scleroderma or high alcohol intake;
- Case or Control groups for the study – RA, PsA, psoriasis, Joint Hypermobility;
- Prior corticosteroid exposure.

Locations (1 total)

<https://www.anzctr.org.au/Trial/Registration/TrialReview.aspx?ACTRN=ACTRN12617000170325>

John Hunter Hospital - New Lambton, NSW, Australia

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