



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

For immediate release

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B.C. Women's needs volunteers for Control of Hypertension In Pregnancy Study *National study looking at best approach for mom and baby*

VANCOUVER, B.C. – British Columbia's Women's Hospital and Health Centre has joined an international effort to study how best to treat pregnant women with elevated blood pressure.

While there is agreement that doctors should treat severely elevated high blood pressure in pregnant women, there is no consensus on whether blood pressure medication should be given for mild to moderate hypertension in pregnancy.

The Control of Hypertension In Pregnancy Study (CHIPS) will ultimately help to determine which provides a better outcome for the baby: using medication to control blood pressure or simply monitoring the condition.

This pilot trial requires 132 women who are 20-33 weeks pregnant with mild to moderate hypertension. Pilot trial results will be used to plan for the large-scale international CHIPS study. Women participating in the trial study will also be asked for their views of the study process.

To find out more about CHIPS, you can contact your physician or Ms. Shelley Soanes at B.C. Women's Hospital at 604-875-2253, or visit the CHIPS Web site at www.utoronto.ca/miru/chips.

CHIPS is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and coordinated through the Maternal Infant Reproductive Health Research Unit at the University of Toronto Centre for Research in Women's Health.

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