

Immune Response & Social Cognition in Schizophrenia (iRELATE)



University Hospital Galway



St. James's Hospital Dublin

Summary of the study

The aim of the study is to gain a better understanding of how the environment and genes influence your brain structure and function. A particular focus of the research is on examining whether these effects are related to changes in the immune system in individuals with schizophrenia.

What is involved in the study?

There are three parts to the study:

- 1) In the first part of the study, you will have a phone screening to ensure that you are eligible and that it is safe for you to take part in the study.
- 2) In the second part of the study, you will be asked to complete pen and paper tests and computer tasks that look at memory, concentration and emotion. In addition, you will also be asked to provide small blood samples for immune function and genetic testing. Lastly, you will also be asked to participate in a stress task. This part will take about 2.5 hours.
- 3) In the third part of the study, you will be asked to do new computer tasks while having an MRI scan of your brain done. You will also be asked to complete pen and paper questionnaires about early childhood experiences. This part of the study will take about 2 hours.

The second part of the study will take place at the University Hospital Galway, whereas the third part of the study will take place at St. James's Hospital in Dublin. All travel and related expenses for the study will be fully reimbursed. In addition, we can provide feedback on the pen and paper and computer tests. We also give a DVD containing the MRI scan of your brain.

What are the inclusion criteria?

- ✓ Between 18 and 60 years old
- ✓ Not currently misusing substances (for at least 1 month)

Who can I contact for further information?

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