



Durham, NC (March 1, 2020) — According to the National Kidney Foundation, more than half a million people go to the emergency room annually for painful kidney stones—and that is not an issue specific to adults. Children as young as five are known to have kidney stones as well. To tackle the burden of urinary stone disease (USD) among all ages, two studies that are part of the Urinary Stone Disease Research Network (USDRN) – the Prevention of Urinary Stones with Hydration (PUSH) and the Study to Enhance uNderstanding of sTent-associated Symptoms (STENTS) – are branching out to reach more participants and improve health outcomes.

Last month, the PUSH study received approval to open remote recruitment to participants across the United States. The USDRN is now poised to partner with health systems across the country to enroll children and adults to participate in the study. While USD research is common among adult populations, there is much to learn about painful kidney stones in children. Through these recruitment and collaborative efforts, PUSH will reach more potential participants old and young, local and afar.

“We are excited about new collaborations with remote sites and look forward to the continued increase in enrollment in this important study,” said Chuck Scales, MD, associate professor at the Duke Clinical Research Institute and one of the study’s principal investigators. “We now have an even greater opportunity to encourage people of all ages to reach and maintain their fluid intake goals.”

STENTS, USDRN’s second study, seeks to understand the causes of pain associated with ureteral stents in individuals requiring surgery to remove stones. Within the past year, the study completed its first enrollment phase and is currently developing manuscripts highlighting the results from the study’s initial cohort. In the spirit of collaboration, STENTS also formed a partnership with [MUSIC ROCKS](#), an initiative created by the Michigan Urological Surgery Improvement Collaborative to improve the quality of care for kidney stone patients. This initiative has adopted the methodology created through the STENTS study to better understanding the patient experience in regards to ureteral stents.

If you are interested in enrolling in either study, you can find more information at [USDRN.org](#) and [ClinicalTrials.gov](#). USDRN is enrolling participants at the following clinical centers:

- University of Pennsylvania/Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
- University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas
- University of Washington in Seattle
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Mayo Clinic (PUSH only)
- Cleveland Clinic (PUSH only)

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