



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH FLORIDA

ARE YOU A SICKLE CELL TRAIT (SCT) CARRIER?

✓ *Do you play college football?*

✓ *Do you know that you carry SCT?*

If you answered yes to both of these questions you may be eligible to participate in an important research study!

The goal of this study is to determine how the genes that surround the SCT gene may affect the health of those who carry SCT.



Total participation time will be approximately 15 to 30 minutes.

There will be no monetary compensation for participation in this study.

If you would like more information about this study please contact the Principal Investigator, Carroll Flansburg, at 802-233-8547 or cflansbu@mail.usf.edu.

Check out our Facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Carriers-of-Sickle-Cell-Trait/150929204998069>



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To Whom It May Concern:

We are conducting a study funded by the NCAA on collegiate football players who carry Sickle Cell Trait (SCT). As you may know, SCT has become a highly publicized topic due to the health problems and deaths of a number of SCT athletes. We feel that the health implications for SCT athletes are serious and warrant more thorough investigation.

There are five different types of Sickle Cell mutations. In people who have Sickle Cell Anemia it has long been known that two of the five types of mutations cause worse health outcomes than the other three. We hypothesize that these two mutations may also cause ill health in those with SCT.

Participants will be asked to provide a genetic sample so that we can determine what type of mutation they carry and correlate it with information regarding their experiences with heat illness, exertional sickling, and various symptoms, which will be gathered through a survey. The athletes' genetic information will be destroyed once it has been analyzed and will not be used for any other purposes. The survey will take about 15 minutes to complete.

We appreciate your encouraging your athletes to participate. Without your support, we do not think the athletes will be likely to participate. We expect that this project will help us understand why some, though not all, SCT athletes experience ill health during training. We will provide our results to the NCAA so that athletes, coaches, and trainers can make more informed decisions regarding SCT athletes.

Please contact Carroll Flansburg at 802-233-8547 or cflansbu@mail.usf.edu if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carroll N. Flansburg", is written over the typed name.

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