



What is the study's title?	Focal Cerebral Arteriopathy Steroid (FOCAS) Trial
What is the study's purpose and why is it important?	This study will help us learn when is the best time to treat children and adolescents who may have focal cerebral arteriopathy (FCA). Focal cerebral arteriopathy is a disease that causes blood vessels in the brain of a child or adolescent to get inflamed and narrowed. This can cause a stroke. Doctors already use steroids to treat FCA and prevent stroke, but we do not know when the best time is to start the steroid treatment.
Who can take part?	Children and adolescents that may have focal cerebral arteriopathy (FCA).
What will participants be asked to do?	<p>If you join the study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It will last 6 to 12 months. • You will be randomly assigned to either of the 2 treatments options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Option A: the “just in case” approach: Start steroids as soon as their doctor <i>thinks</i> they may have FCA ○ Option B: the “wait and see” approach: Start steroids as soon as their doctor <i>knows</i> they have FCA • You will complete activities while you are in the hospital and after your stay. <p>While you are in the hospital:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will get the same care you normally would. This includes taking aspirin to prevent a stroke. • You will have a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) to take pictures of their brain ○ MRA (magnetic resonance angiography) to take pictures of the blood vessels in their brain • We will collect the below samples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Blood sample ○ Spinal fluid sample (if you have a spinal tap to collect spinal fluid) • We will interview you and ask questions about your medical history and any steroid side effects. <p>You will have follow-up visits at 1 month, 6 months, and 12 months.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the 1-month follow-up visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ You will have another blood draw and another MRI and MRA scan. ○ You will be asked questions about your health. ○ You will be asked questions about how you feel if you take a steroid. ○ If you have already been discharged, you will come back to the hospital for this visit. • At the 6- and 12-month follow up visits, we will ask questions about your health and any steroid side effects. These visits can be in-person or virtual. The 12-month visit is optional.
Will participants be paid?	Compensation will be available to help cover the costs of your time and travel.