Who will qualify for this clinical trial?

Age
12-45 years old

Allergy to any of these foods:
peanut • tree nuts • sesame • fish • shellfish

The reason to focus on these food allergies and those who are between 12-45 years old is based on the severity and chronic nature of peanut, tree nut, sesame, fish, and/or shellfish allergies.

What is involved in participation:

- Skin prick testing
- Blood draw
- Feeding test / oral food challenge
- Taking the experimental mixture of herbs
- The study is approximately 9 months long

This clinical trial is supported by the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM), National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Food Allergy Initiative (FAI).

For more information, please contact
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Traditional Chinese Medicine for the Treatment of Food Allergies

Are you between 12-45 years old?
Are you allergic to peanuts, tree nuts, sesame, fish, or shellfish?

Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City is currently enrolling volunteers for a new clinical study that will determine the effectiveness of Chinese herbs for the treatment of food allergy.

All study-related visits and laboratory test are provided at no cost.

www.clinicaltrials.gov
Search “Chinese herbs food allergy”

GCO# 02-0527 (Phase II)
IRB approved through 06/30/2012.

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Food allergy affects as many as 6% of young children and 3%-4% of adults. Peanut allergy is the leading cause of food-induced anaphylaxis treated in hospital emergency departments in the US. The prevalence of childhood peanut allergy doubled between 1997 and 2002. Unlike other food allergies, peanut and tree nut allergies are rarely outgrown. Seafood allergy affects an estimated 2.3% of Americans. Seafood includes finned fish, shrimp, crab, lobster, clams, squid, scallop, and snails. Seafood allergy often develops in adulthood and is typically considered long-lived.

Despite best research efforts, a lasting cure for food allergy is unavailable. At the present time, there is no effective therapy for peanut allergy or other food allergies. Other than immediate access to rescue medications, strict avoidance is the only way to manage this condition.

Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) has been used in China to treat various diseases for thousands of years. TCM includes using formulas composed of Chinese herbs that produce synergistic (joint) effects and have reduced side effects.

Currently in China, TCM is used alone or alongside western therapies. It is useful as an alternative or complementary therapy because of its effectiveness, low cost, and favorable safety profile.

Mount Sinai medical researchers have developed a nine-herb formula, FAHF-2, for the treatment of food allergy.

When used according to traditional Chinese herbology, the herbs in FAHF-2 have been utilized in long term periods of time for hundreds of years without known ill effects. Identification and authenticity of all herbs in FAHF-2 were documented according to Chinese pharmaceutical references. FAHF-2 is an experimental mixture of Chinese herbs.

Why is this important?

- There is a need for food allergy treatment research because there is no treatment for food allergy other than strict food avoidance.
- FAHF-2 has shown a favorable safety profile for food allergic individuals.
- FAHF-2 has demonstrated efficacy in an animal model of peanut allergy.
- The preclinical study showed that FAHF-2 has long lasting protective effect in an animal model of peanut allergy.