

**Narcolepsy Research**  
at  
**Abratech Corporation**  
Sausalito, California 94965  
(415) 331-6126

## YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH PROGRAM

**A message from: Charlotte B. McCutchen, M.D.**  
Former NINDS Liason  
National Commission on Sleep Disorders

Research Dear Potential Research Participant,

This is not a request for money, but a letter to let you know of a new research program you might want to participate in.

You and I both know amazing advances have been made recently in our understanding and treatment of Narcolepsy, after decades of little progress. For years you faced limited treatment options and limited professional understanding of the difficult symptoms you were dealing with. Now with more research there are a variety of treatments with improved effectiveness and fewer side effects.

But you also know the fight is far from over. Even the new treatments are not without their downside; it still takes a major commitment on the part of both you and your care-giver to determine the optimal treatment to provide alertness for you with the least side effects. There is still a great deal not known about Narcolepsy.

Abratech Corporation is a Sausalito company that is devoted entirely to medical research. With funding from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), Abratech is studying patients with Narcolepsy, when they are awake, napping, or asleep. Because hearing is the one sensory ability that does not shut down during sleep, Abratech researchers have been conducting hearing studies during sleep in research participants who make up the control group for the study. The researchers have found interesting differences between the awake and sleeping states. The next step is to see if the brains of people with Narcolepsy process sounds differently, particularly when asleep or napping.

We do not believe that these studies will lead immediately to new or better therapies for Narcolepsy. That is not the way science works. The recent breakthroughs that help present patients were made after years of painstaking research in seemingly unpromising areas. But understanding how the brain responds to sounds, and if the response differs in people with

Narcolepsy, holds promise for helping to eventually unravel the knotty question of how the brain behaves differently in people with Narcolepsy when it comes to arousal and wakefulness.

Taking part in this study as a research participant will not directly benefit you. But it is our hope that research studies like this one will contribute to an increase in knowledge that may lead to benefits for others in the future. At the present time the most Abratech can do for you is to promise to make every effort to minimize your inconvenience and offer you a small stipend to compensate you for your time away from your regular activities. If you need transportation to and from Abratech, it will be provided or a travel allowance will be granted.

But if you have the time, and the patience, then this might be an opportunity you would enjoy. You will be part of a team effort to understand more about Narcolepsy.

If you are curious and want to find out more, contact Abratech by telephone at (415) 331-6126 or (415) 289-7458 and leave a message that you want more information about being a research participant in the Narcolepsy study. Please include your name and address and phone number, so additional materials can be sent to you. You can also learn more about being a research participant by viewing the Abratech web site at "[www.abratech.com](http://www.abratech.com)."

You don't have to make any commitment or oblige yourself in any way until you are satisfied completely that you want to participate. Not only that, but even if you do decide to participate, you can drop out at any time if you change your mind for any reason. You are completely in charge of how much or how little you want to be involved.

I hope you will want to join us in this venture. There is much to be learned, and even more to be understood.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Charlotte B. McCutchen*

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