Public Notification:

Researchers at the Medical College of Wisconsin are studying heart rhythm medicines that can be used for cardiac arrest. This study began in March 2013 in Milwaukee County. The study will compare heart rhythm medicines that can be used during cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for cardiac arrest. Cardiac arrest means that a person’s heart stops beating. If the heart is not beating in a way that pumps blood, medicines have been used to help defibrillation (electricity shocking the heart) to get the heart to beat in a way that pumps blood. Researchers do not know if medicines used are better than giving no medications at all. This study is comparing two medicines currently used during CPR as well as looking to see if not giving medicines at all is better. The goal of this study is to help more people live after cardiac arrest. Cardiac arrest is an emergency and the paramedics have to act quickly to treat a person. This means that there is no time to get permission. People with cardiac arrest are unconscious and cannot agree to join. In studies like this, a person’s consent is not possible. This is called an exception from informed consent under emergency circumstances. This study meets the U.S. Food and Drug Administration guidelines for exception from informed consent under emergency circumstances. If you do not want to be in the study, you must request that you not be included. For details on 1) the risks and benefits, 2) exception from informed consent under emergency circumstances, 3) a bracelet to wear that tells emergency services that you are not a part of the study, or 4) other aspects of the study please call Dr. Tom Aufderheide at (414) 805-6493, email at RRC@mcw.edu or visit the web site at (www.mcw.edu/ROCALPS).