



## Call for Concept Proposals

### Exam 5 Ancillary Studies

The Jackson Heart Study (JHS), initiated in 1998, is a longitudinal investigation of risk factors associated with the disproportionate burden of cardiovascular disease (CVD) in African American adults ([www.jacksonheartstudy.org](http://www.jacksonheartstudy.org)). JHS recruited 5,306 African American adults living in the Jackson, MS, metropolitan area of Hinds, Madison, and Rankin counties. Enrolled JHS participants have received four clinical examinations (Exam 1, 2000-04; Exam 2, 2005-08; Exam 3, 2009-13; and Exam 4, 2021-25) and have been contacted annually for information on vital status and recent hospitalizations.

The JHS Executive Committee (EC) is requesting concept proposals for ancillary studies that will be conducted in conjunction with the upcoming Exam 5 and involve participant contact. Ancillary studies using existing JHS data and resources or involving participant contact unrelated to Exam 5 (e.g., annual follow up) will continue to submit proposals on a rolling basis separate from this solicitation.

JHS Exam 5 is tentatively scheduled to occur May 2028 through November 2030 and will consist of a reexamination of surviving JHS Legacy Cohort participants. The targeted recruitment is 70% of the surviving cohort (approximately 2,240 participants). All ancillary studies require separate funding. The EC will review all concept proposals based on scientific merit, feasibility, participant burden, relevance, and appropriateness for the JHS study cohort, and overlap with previously approved studies. For concept proposals selected for possible coordination with JHS Exam 5, investigators will subsequently complete the JHS Ancillary Study proposal application and will need to work with the JHS Field and Coordinating Centers to coordinate exam components and develop budgets to cover ancillary costs. (The Coordinating Center will facilitate communications with the JHS Central Lab and Reading Centers if applicable.) Ancillary studies must cover all expenses associated with the conduct of the ancillary study.

**Concept proposal format:** Investigators should prepare a concept proposal describing the scientific premise and innovation of the ancillary study, planned collaborators (including any industry involvement), and the rationale for this research in JHS. The concept proposal should also include a description of the measures to be collected, the estimated participant burden (time and discomfort), and notifiable results, if applicable. The maximum length of the concept proposal is 2 pages (excluding references and the appendix; 0.5-inch margins, 11-point font).

A brief appendix is permitted to provide specific details about questionnaires, procedures/measures, estimated time of participant interaction, specialized materials or equipment needs, software requirements (e.g., proprietary device software), staff certifications, and modes of data collection (e.g., remote, self-administered).

**Proposal submission:** Email to [Letitia.perdue@advocatehealth.org](mailto:Letitia.perdue@advocatehealth.org) & [pmoore6@umc.edu](mailto:pmoore6@umc.edu).



### Proposed JHS Exam 5: Main Study Components

Administrative	Questionnaires	Procedures/Measurements
Informed Consent	Demographics	Anthropometry
	Lifestyle (smoking, alcohol, physical activity, sleep)	Blood pressure
	Medical History	Cognitive function battery
	Medication Inventory	Echocardiogram (AI-guided)
	Nutrition	Electrocardiogram
	Psychosocial	Specimen collection (blood and urine)
	Social determinants of health	Spirometry

### Exam 5 Ancillary Study Timeline

Activity	Deadline
Call for Exam 5 proposals released	March 15, 2026
Exam 5 concept proposal submission due	May 1, 2026
Selected concept proposal announcement	June 1, 2026
Full Ancillary Study proposal submission due	July 1, 2026
OSMB review and approval	Sept 1, 2026
External funding initial submission	Oct 5, 2026
External funding secured from initial submission	June 1, 2027
External funding resubmission ( <i>if necessary</i> )	March 5, 2027
External funding secured from resubmission	December 1, 2027
Exam 5 begins	May 1, 2028