

PCL/24/03 - Investigating the Role of Fibrosis Activity in Diabetic Cardiomyopathy

Diabetes is one of the commonest health problems across the world and complications of diabetes can impact major organs such as the heart. Heart disease is the leading cause of death in these individuals and research is needed to better understand why this occurs. Studies have suggested that scarring can occur in the heart and pancreas that can lead to permanent damage. It is unclear how or why this occurs and what impact this has on individuals with this condition. Currently there is no way to assess how active the scarring process is and therefore no drug treatments have been developed to address this problem. With a new scan, we are in a unique position to identify scarring activity in the human body more accurately. We aim to use this new technology to identify scarring in organs such as the heart so that we can better understand how diabetes affects the heart and causes heart failure. This will provide opportunities to develop new drugs to prevent scarring and permanent heart damage and improve the lives of those suffering from this chronic illness.