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*2004 Program
New Investigator (3-year project)*

Project Title: Gender Related Cardiovascular Effects of Smoking and Value of L-Arginine

Project Summary: Although not well understood, some studies suggest that cigarette smoking may have different effects on the cardiovascular system of women as compared to men. The main purpose of this research is to determine whether differences exist between men and women and how cigarette smoking affects the heart and blood vessels. This study seeks to determine if dietary supplementation with a semi-essential amino acid, L-arginine, may improve cardiovascular function.