

## ***H51 Abdominal Pain Study***

To air week of December 17, 2007

Intro: One out of ten. That's how many Americans suffer from stomach problems. Many people find relief with antacids or other medications. But for some people, nothing seems to help the bloating, gas and burning they feel after a meal. But researchers at Mayo Clinic say they may have found a new cause for chronic, unexplained stomach pain and they're studying ways to treat it.

**Video**

**Total running time 1:36**

**Tammy Overton  
Has stomach pain**

**Tammy Overton**

**Audio**

TO TAMMY OVERTON, A STROLL  
ON THE BEACH IS A GREAT WAY  
TO RELAX.

“YOU FORGET ABOUT EVERYTHING  
ELSE THAT'S GOING ON BECAUSE  
IT'S SO PEACEFUL.”

HERE TAMMY CAN FORGET ABOUT  
THE STRESS OF EVERY DAY LIFE,  
AND THE STRESS OF HAVING  
CHRONIC STOMACH PAIN.

“I'VE HAD IT FOR AS LONG AS I CAN  
REMEMBER.

BURNING, BLOATING, GAS,  
FEELING FULL, BEING UNABLE TO  
FINISH A MEAL. THE SYMPTOMS  
MAKE TAMMY FEEL TERRIBLE.

**Standup**  
**Vivien Williams**  
**Reporting**

"TAMMY TRIED ANTACIDS, PROTON PUMP INHIBITORS, EVEN CHANGING HER DIET, BUT NOTHING WORKED."

THAT'S WHEN SHE WENT TO MAYO CLINIC WHERE DR. NICHOLAS TALLEY IS LEADING A STUDY TO FIND OUT WHY PEOPLE HAVE SYMPTOMS LIKE TAMMY'S, AND WHETHER OR NOT CERTAIN MEDICATIONS CAN HELP.

**Nicholas Talley, M.D., Ph.D.**  
**Mayo Clinic Gastroenterologist**

"THE CONDITION IS CALLED FUNCTIONAL DYSPEPSIA."  
AND DR. TALLEY AND HIS TEAM BELIEVE IT MAY BE CAUSED BY AN EXCESS OF INFLAMMATORY CELLS CALLED EOSINOPHILS IN THE DUODENUM, WHICH IS THE PART OF YOUR SMALL INTESTINE RIGHT BELOW THE STOMACH. YOUR BODY MAKES THESE CELLS WHEN YOU HAVE AN ALLERGIC REACTION.

**Nicholas Talley, M.D., Ph.D.**  
**Mayo Clinic Gastroenterologist**

“WE NOW SUSPECT THAT SOME OF OUR PATIENTS WHO HAVE THIS CONDITION MAY HAVE AN ALLERGY POSSIBLY TO SOME FOOD OR OTHER SUBSTANCE.” AS A STUDY PARTICIPANT, TAMMY TOOK MEDICATION TYPICALLY USED FOR OTHER CONDITIONS LIKE DEPRESSION, TO SEE IF IT RELIEVED HER STOMACH SYMPTOMS. FOR HER IT SEEMED TO WORK, AND IF THE STUDY PROVES THAT IT DOES...

**Nicholas Talley, M.D., Ph.D.**  
**Mayo Clinic Gastroenterologist**

“IT MAY MEAN, IN THE RELATIVELY NEAR FUTURE, THAT WE MAY HAVE A DIFFERENT WAY OF APPROACHING THE TREATMENT OF SYMPTOMS LIKE TAMMY’S.” SO SHE AND THOUSANDS OF OTHER PEOPLE WITH UNEXPLAINED STOMACH PAIN CAN FIND RELIEF. FOR MEDICAL EDGE, I’M VIVIEN WILLIAMS.

Anchor tag:

Dr. Talley says that not all people with unexplained stomach pain have this condition, but he hopes his research will help the many who do. He also says more research needs to be done to determine what foods or substances cause this type of allergic reaction. If you'd like more about this ongoing study, email Mayo Clinic at [dyspepsia@mayo.edu](mailto:dyspepsia@mayo.edu) or visit our Website at.....[STATIONS: Per the licensing agreement, please provide a link from your station's website to <http://www.mayoclinic.org> or voice tag "mayoclinic.org" for more information.]