

Clinical Study Questions & Answers

What are the benefits of participating in a clinical study?

Each study is different, but the benefits of participating may include any of the following:

- Access to medication and medical care from specialists who know your condition at no cost.
- An opportunity to receive a medical treatment that is not widely available.
- Laboratory or radiology tests at no cost.

What is a clinical research study?

A clinical study is research designed to test new investigational drugs, devices, or procedures to see if they work and are safe. This brochure attempts to answer some key questions as you decide, with the assistance of your physician and family, whether you should participate in a clinical study that tests a new investigational drug.

Are studies safe?

Yes, all studies done in our research program are carefully reviewed by a group of physicians for safety. No high risk studies are done in our program.

Why are clinical studies important?

Almost all medications available today have gone through a clinical study. Because of clinical study research, we now have treatments for hundreds of diseases. Survival rates for breast cancer, HIV, and prostate cancer have all increased in the last decade due, in large part, to the research advances made by doctors and the participation of thousands of clinical study volunteers. Clinical study participants help researchers further the development of new treatments and new cures.

What can participants expect in a clinical study?

In a clinical study, some participants may take medication; others may take a placebo (sugar pill). If you decide to volunteer for a clinical study, you will learn about the potential risks and benefits of participating in a specific study when you review the study with the research nurse. Participants are carefully monitored by doctors and nurses and can stop participation freely at any time.

If you qualify to participate in a clinical study, you would go to one of our area clinics to receive treatment and answer a few questions every two to six weeks. A clinical study lasts from six weeks to four years.

Questions you should ask.

Choosing to participate in a clinical research study is an important decision. Here are some questions you may want to discuss with your doctor and your clinical study team:

- What is the purpose of this study?
- What are the potential benefits, and are there any foreseeable risks or discomforts?
- What tests will I need?
- Have other people been treated with this drug before in clinical studies? What were the results?
- Will I continue to see my own personal doctor?
- Will there be any costs to me?

Example Studies

Examples of some illnesses treated and studied in our clinical trials are listed below :

- . Viral Illness (Cold)
- . Hypertension
- . Irritable Bowel Syndrome
- . Diabetes
- . Pneumonia
- . Arthritis
- . Sjogren's Syndrome
- . Infant Formula / Nutrition
- . Stomach Ulcers
- . Hepatitis C
- . Pediatric Vaccine

Patient Confidentiality

Patient confidentiality is maintained throughout clinical studies.