

# Getting Answers

## Questions to Ask Before Enrolling in a Clinical Trial



People who are in a clinical trial or are thinking about joining a clinical trial have the right to ask the study staff any questions they may have about the study.

The questions below are useful for patients, potential study volunteers, and their family members or friends to ask the research staff – which can include doctors, nurses, study coordinators, and other people who help conduct the trial.

If you'd like, you can check off the boxes below as you get answers to the corresponding questions.

- ☐ What is the main purpose of this study?
- ☐ Does the study involve a placebo or a treatment that is already on the market?
- ☐ How will the treatment be given to me?
- ☐ How long is the study going to last, and what will I be asked to do as a participant?
- ☐ What has been learned about the study treatment, and are any study results published?
- ☐ Do I have to pay for any part of the study? Will my insurance cover these costs?
- ☐ Is there any reimbursement for travel costs or childcare?
- ☐ Will I be able to see my own doctor?
- ☐ If the treatment works for me, can I keep using it after the study?
- ☐ Can anyone find out whether I'm participating in the clinical trial?
- ☐ Will I receive any follow-up care after the study has ended?
- ☐ What will happen to my medical care if I stop participating in the study?
- ☐ Does the physician/investigator have any financial or special interest in the clinical study?
- ☐ What are the credentials and research experience of the physician and study staff?
- ☐ When and how will the results of the clinical trial be provided to me?
- ☐ Will I learn my treatment assignment?

# General Resources

**Search Clinical Trials** Public service that compiles clinical trial listings from multiple sources. You can also request a free search for clinical trials in your area.  
[www.searchclinicaltrials.org](http://www.searchclinicaltrials.org) | 1-877 MED HERO

**CISCRP Education Center** Online portal of clinical research information and resources.  
[www.ciscrp.org/education-center](http://www.ciscrp.org/education-center)

**ClinicalTrials.gov** Registry of clinical trials in both English and Spanish.  
[www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov) | 1-800-411-1222



## “Education Before Participation”

“Questions to Ask” is part of CISCRP’s Education Before Participation resource series.



An editorial panel of patients, public and professional representatives has reviewed this educational flyer.



The Center for Information and Study on Clinical Research Participation (CISCRP) is an independent non-profit organization dedicated to engaging the public and patients as partners in the clinical research process through education and outreach programs. CISCRP services also assist clinical research stakeholders in understanding public and patient attitudes & experiences in research to improve patient satisfaction. CISCRP is not involved in recruiting patients for clinical trials, nor is it involved in conducting clinical trials.

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