

Read this information for patients who might participate in research:

What are the potential benefits of participating in clinical research?

There are many possible benefits of being part of clinical research, including:

- You may have the chance to help scientists better understand your disease or condition and to advance treatments and ways to prevent it in the future.
- You may feel like you're playing a more active role in your health.
- You may learn more about your disease or condition.
- You may be able to get information about support groups and resources.

In addition, some people participate in clinical trials because they hope to gain access to a potential new treatment for a disease before it is widely available.

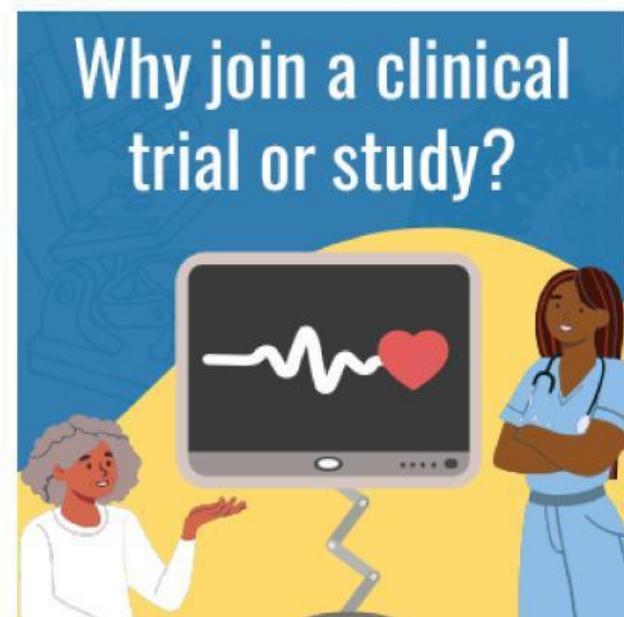
What are the potential risks of participating in clinical research?

Clinical trials and studies do come with some possible risks, including:

- The research may involve tests that pose a risk to participants. For example, certain physical tests may increase the chance of falling, and X-rays may cause a small increase in the risk of developing cancer.
- Participating in a study could also be inconvenient for you. For example, you may be required to have additional or longer medical appointments, more procedures, complex medication instructions, or hospital stays.

Additional risks of participating in clinical trials may include:

- For those who receive the experimental treatment, it may be uncomfortable or cause side effects (which can range from mild to serious).
- The experimental treatment might not work, or it may not be better than the standard treatment.
- For trials testing a new treatment, such as a new medication or device, you may end up not being part of the group that gets the experimental treatment. Instead, you may be assigned to the control (or comparison) group. In some studies, the control group receives a placebo, which is given in the same way as the treatment but has no effect.



Participant confidentiality is a concern in any kind of research. People other than the researchers, such as the study sponsors or experts who monitor safety, may be able to access medical information related to the study. Safeguards are in place to ensure that researchers tell potential participants what information could be shared and how their privacy will be protected before they consent to participate in research.

The study coordinators will provide detailed information and answer questions about the risks and benefits of participating in a particular study. Having this information can help you make an informed decision about whether to participate.

True or False – Understanding Clinical Research

1. Participating in clinical research can help scientists better understand certain diseases. True / False
2. Everyone who joins a clinical trial receives the new experimental treatment. True / False
3. Clinical trials may require participants to attend more medical appointments than usual. True / False
4. Participating in clinical research always guarantees a personal health benefit. True / False
5. A placebo is a treatment that is given to all participants in every clinical study. True / False
6. Some people join clinical trials to access treatments that are not yet widely available. True / False
7. X-rays used in research studies can increase the risk of developing cancer slightly. True / False
8. Side effects from experimental treatments can range from mild to serious. True / False
9. Only the researchers conducting the study can access participants' medical information. True / False
10. Study coordinators must provide detailed information about risks and benefits before participants agree to join a study. True / False