



# IS A CLINICAL TRIAL RIGHT FOR YOU?

You may want to be in a clinical trial – a study that tests new ways to prevent, find, or treat disease. Before you sign up, talk about the benefits and risks with your healthcare provider, trusted family and friends, or study team. Some potential benefits and risks include:

## Benefits

- You may have access to new treatments before everyone can get them. You could be among the first to benefit.
- You may feel better.
- You may get study treatments for free.
- Healthcare providers will be watching your health closely.
- Information from the clinical trial can help other people living with lupus.

## Risks

- The study treatment may make you feel worse.
- The study treatment may not work for you.
- The study treatment may have side effects or risks that were not expected.

## Your Healthcare Provider

Talk with your healthcare provider early to determine if you might be eligible to participate in a study. It is important to discuss your goals and expectations with your provider before starting treatments.

The information your provider knows about the study may vary. Your healthcare provider may be part of the study team (a group of people working with the clinical trial) and may know a lot about the trial. Or your provider may be learning about the study. Your provider will answer as much as they can about the clinical trial.

However, whether or not your provider knows a lot about the study, they do know a lot about you and your health history. They can answer questions about treatments you have already used, possible benefits and risks, and how this clinical trial could impact your overall health.



## Questions to Ask

Below are some questions to ask your healthcare provider or study team. You do not have to ask your provider all of them. Keep this with you if you think a clinical trial is right for you. It may also help to talk about these answers with family and friends you trust.

1. What is the purpose of the study?
2. Why do scientists think this new treatment will work?
3. What are the possible benefits, risks, and side effects?
4. Will this affect my fertility (ability to have a child)?
5. How will this impact the treatments I am currently taking?
6. What therapies, procedures, and tests will I have during the study?
7. How many visits will I need to come in for during the study?
8. How might the study affect my daily life?
9. How long will the study last?
10. Will it cost me anything to be in this study?
11. Will I be paid for being in this study?
12. Will transportation or childcare be provided?
13. What information will be collected about me in the study?
14. Whom should I contact if there is a problem or question?
15. What will happen after the study?

If you are looking for more questions to ask, visit  
[www.hhs.gov/ohrp/education-and-outreach/about-research-participation](http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/education-and-outreach/about-research-participation)

## Summary

- It is important to think about the benefits and risks of participating in a clinical trial.
- Your healthcare provider and study team can help you understand some of these benefits and risks.