

Deciding to Volunteer in a Clinical Trial?

If you are considering participating in a trial should know as much as possible about the trial before agreeing to join or allowing your child to join. It is important to ask the doctors and nurses questions about the trial, the care expected while in the trial, the procedures involved, and the costs that may be associated with the trial. Here is a list of questions that can be important to ask before deciding to participate:

- What is the purpose of the study?
- Who is going to be in the study?
- Why do researchers believe the treatment being tested may be effective?
- Has the treatment been tested before?
- How do the risks, possible side effects, and potential benefits in the study compare with my/my child's current treatment?
- What kinds of tests and treatments are involved?
- How might this trial affect my or my child's daily life?
- Will I be able to continue to work during the trial?
- How long will the trial last?
- Will hospitalization be required?
- Who will pay for the treatment?
- Will I be reimbursed for expenses such as childcare, transportation, time away from work, etc.?
- What type of long-term follow up care is part of this study?
- How will I know that the treatment is working?
- Who will be in charge of my care during the trial?
- Will results of the trial be provided to me?

If you cannot find answers to these questions in the consent form, ask the study investigator or coordinator.