

Questions to Ask Before Joining a Research Study

This tool can help you decide if joining a clinical research study is right for you. Ask the questions below when talking with the study coordinator. You should also write down any other questions or concerns you may have.

Study details

- What is the main purpose of this study?
- How long will the study last?
- Where will the study take place?
- Who will be responsible for my care during the study?

Study activities

- What procedures, medicines, or devices will be used, and how will they be used?
- How might being in this study affect my daily routine and activities?
- Will I ever need to stay in the hospital during the study?
- How will my safety be checked during the study?

Risks and benefits

- Are there any risks? What are they?
- What are the possible benefits of being in this study?
- Are there other treatment options besides joining the study?

Costs and payment

- Who is funding (paying for) the study?
- Will I have to pay for anything if I join?
- Will I be paid back for travel, parking, or other expenses?
- Will I get paid for being in the study?

If something happens

- What happens if I am injured or harmed during the study?

After the study ends

- If the treatment helps me, can I continue receiving it after the study ends?

Other questions I want to ask:

For more mental health educational resources, visit depressioncenter.org/toolkit.

This document provides general educational information developed by the Eisenberg Family Depression Center. It is not a substitute for professional medical advice. Please consult your health care provider if you have questions about your health or treatment options.