

# How to talk to your healthcare provider about clinical trials

If you're thinking about joining a clinical trial, talking with a healthcare provider is a good first step. You don't need a referral to join a trial, but your healthcare provider may be a good resource to assist as you explore the trial process and expectations. That's why we put together a list of questions to help you start a conversation.

1. What are clinical trials, and how do they work?
2. Do you know of any trials that might be a good fit for me?
3. How do I find out if I qualify to join a trial?
4. What medical treatment will I have in a trial?
5. Will it cost me anything to join a clinical trial?
6. What are the good things about being in a clinical trial?
7. Who makes sure a trial is safe?
8. Are there any possible problems, risks, or side effects from being in a clinical trial, and how will the trial team help me deal with them?
9. How long does a regular clinical trial take, and how many times will I have to go to the clinic or research place?
10. Can I bring someone with me to trial visits?
11. Can I still get care from my regular healthcare provider while I'm in a trial?
12. Who will see my medical records if I join a trial?
13. Who else will know I am in a trial?
14. What if I don't like being in a trial after I start?
15. What happens after a trial ends?
16. Are clinical trials safe?