



Clinical Trials

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Issues to consider



- General risks
- Benefits
- Discuss with your doctor
- Make informed decision whether or not to participate
- Determine which trial is appropriate for you

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Questions



1. What are the benefits?
2. What are the general risks?

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Benefits

- Access to new treatments
- Potential benefits before they become widely available

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Risks

- Possible exposure to side effects
- Risks associated with a new treatment
- May not derive any benefit from therapy

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Safeguards

- Strictly and rigorously monitored by physicians and medical staff conducting studies
- Common Rule-DHHS policy mandates that any clinical research study must ensure the rights and well being of study participants.

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Other Safeguards

- IRBs (Institutional Review Boards) - independent committees established at each medical center conducting clinical research. Members are doctors, other health care professionals and community advocates.
- Informed Consent - process of learning the important facts about a clinical research study to help you decide whether or not to participate. Continues throughout the study. Not a contract.

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Continued Care

- Continue to receive care from your own hematologist or oncologist .
- Not a substitute for the overall routine care provided by your primary doctor.
- Possible to participate in a clinical research study conducted by own doctor .

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Conclusion

- Volunteering is a personal choice.
- Gather the necessary information.
- Discuss with your doctor.

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