

## Questions to Ask Before Joining a Study

**It's important to ask any question you have. You can ask questions before you begin or anytime during the study. Some questions you may wish to ask include:**

- How much time will I have to commit to participate in the study? How often will I need to come in? How long will the visits be? What time of day will I need to schedule appointments?
- What will I be doing in the study?
- What is the goal of the study?
- Who is paying for it?
- How long will the study last?
- Where will the study take place? Is hospitalization required?
- Are there any fees associated with the study? Will I be paid for my participation?
- What procedures are in place to ensure my confidentiality?
- Will I receive care after the treatment study has ended?
- How will the study help further the field or help others?
- Will I be promptly informed of any findings that might make me want to drop out? For example, if the experimental medication can make me ill.
- What treatment, if any, will I receive?
- Will I have to discontinue my present treatment(s)? If so, could this harm my health?
- If I can stay on my present medication(s), will taking experimental medication be bad for my health?
- If I am involved in a "crossover" clinical study, can I go back to the first treatment I received if it worked better than the second treatment?
- Can I continue to see my own doctor while in the study?
- Will everyone involved in the study get the same treatment? If not, what chance do I have of receiving an existing treatment or placebo? What else will I have a chance of receiving?
- What are the possible side effects and/or risks? What will be done if I experience side effects during the study?
- If I don't receive a new treatment during the study, will I have an opportunity to try it at the end of the study?
- If I receive the new treatment and it helps me, will I be able to use it after the study ends?
- If I have bipolar disorder, what will happen if the treatment makes me rapid cycle or if I experience manic symptoms?
- Is there child care available?
- Is there transportation available?
- Am I compensated for travel?