# Questions to ask before joining a Clinical Trial:

- What is the purpose of the trial?
- How might this treatment help me?
- How does this treatment compare with the treatment I am currently receiving?
- What are the risks? Could my condition get worse?
- What tests and procedures are involved? Are they different from tests and procedures I would have if I were not in the trial?
- How long will the trial last?
- How much of my time is required
- What are my responsibilities?
- Will I get paid for my time and trave expenses?
- Who will pay for this treatment?
- Can I leave the trial at any time?
- Who will see the results of this trial?
- Whom do I contact if I have any questions?

You can find more information about Clinical Trials on these websites:

www.centerwatch.com/clinical-trials/volunteering.aspx www.nih.gov/health/clinicaltrials/index.htm www.nhlbi.nih.gov/childrenandclinicalstudies/index.php





For more information, contact the Office of Clinical Trials at Montefiore Medical Center and Albert Einstein College of Medicine:

OCT@montefiore.org or OCT@einstein.yu.edu 718-920-2000



Clinical Trials – World Class Care Begins with World Class Research



What is a Clinical Trial?
How can it help me?





Montefiore, the University Hospital for Albert Einstein College of Medicine, is recognized among the top hospitals nationally and regionally by *U.S. News & World Report*.

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#### What is a Clinical Trial?

- A Clinical Trial involves doctors helping to answer a question about health or medicine.
- Clinical Trials test new ways to prevent, detect or treat disease.
- Clinical Trials help us to learn if a new drug or treatment is safe and effective.
- Some other words that describe Clinical Trials are clinical research, research studies, protocols or surveys.

## How can a Clinical Trial help me?

- It may improve your health.
- You may be offered new experimental drugs or treatments that are not available outside of a Clinical Trial.
- You will be seen by leading doctors at the forefront of their fields.
- Results of this research might help develop new information about your medical condition.

# Why should I think about participating?

- Drugs and other medical treatments can work differently in different people. It is important that all kinds of people are included in Clinical Trials to make sure new treatments are safe and effective.
- Everyone deserves the chance to take part in Clinical Trials.
- Clinical Trials have led to important discoveries that make our lives better.
- Clinical Trials are the route through which all new drugs and medical devices come to market.

#### Who can participate?

- Each study has different requirements to join. Some studies look for healthy volunteers, while others need people with certain medical conditions such as cancer, diabetes or high cholesterol, to name a few.
- Montefiore Medical Center and Albert Einstein College of Medicine have Clinical Trials involving many medical conditions, and all age groups.

## What are my rights?

- It is your choice to join a Clinical Trial or not; no one can force you. Before you take part in a study you will go through an informed consent process in which the research staff will explain the study to you. They will answer any questions you may have throughout the trial.
- You have the right to change your mind and quit the trial at any time. This will not affect your medical care at Montefiore Medical Center or Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

#### **Are Clinical Trials safe?**

- Your safety will be monitored closely by the Principal Investigator, who is the doctor in charge of the study.
- An Institutional Review Board (IRB), a local independent committee made up of medical experts and members of your community, also oversees all Clinical Trials to make sure that patients' rights are protected.

#### What are the risks?

- There is a chance you will experience some side effects from the study treatment. The risks will be different from study to study, and they will be explained in detail during the informed consent process.
- There is no guarantee the study treatment will help you.

# Do I have to pay anything?

- Study drugs and tests in Clinical Trials are often provided at no cost.
- Only routine medical expenses you would incur outside of a Clinical Trial may be billed to your insurance company.
- Every trial is different, so it is important to ask the research staff about potential costs.

## Can I continue seeing my own doctor?

- You can keep seeing your own medical doctor when you volunteer for a Clinical Trial.
- You should discuss your decision to take part in a Clinical Trial with your doctor.

