Questions to Ask About Participating in a Clinical Trial

Design of the Clinical Trial

- What is the purpose of this clinical trial?
- What phase is this clinical trial, and what does that mean?
- Why do researchers believe this new treatment might be effective?
- Has this treatment been tested before?
- Have there been other trials similar to this one? If yes, what were the results?
- What kinds of patients will be in the clinical trial?
- How many patients are needed for the clinical trial?
- How long will the trial take?
- Will I find out about the results of the clinical trial?

Eligibility Requirements

- Why is this clinical trial a good fit for me?
- What are my treatment options if I don't join this trial?
- Are there other clinical trials that might help me?

Potential Benefits and Risks

- How could this clinical trial help me if I join?
- What are the possible risks?
- How will I know if the treatment is working?

Practical Concerns

- What will I have to do if I join?
- Will I have to stay in the hospital?
- Will I have to come to the hospital for treatments and tests? How often?
- Will I have to change my daily activities or my diet?
- Who will be in charge of my care?
- What type of long-term follow-up care is part of this study?
- Who will pay for treatment?
- If I have questions about the trial, who can I contact?