

Talking to your doctor about clinical trials

If you are interested in taking part in a clinical trial or have found one that you think could be appropriate for you, you should make an appointment with your doctor. This guide can help you prepare for conversations with your doctor and any follow-up meetings with the clinical trial coordinator if a suitable trial has been found.

Preparing for your appointment

Before your appointment, you may want to think about some questions you'd like to ask. While your doctor will be able to answer your general questions, they may need to refer to the clinical trial coordinator to answer any that are more specific to a particular trial once you have been referred to a trial center.

i The trial coordinator is the person responsible for managing the clinical trial day-to-day and, alongside your doctor, would be the contact point for you if you were to take part in a clinical trial.



Questions you may want to ask your doctor

- What is the main purpose of the clinical trial?
- What would the clinical trial mean for me?
- Do you think there would be a benefit to me enrolling onto this clinical trial?
- What happens if I change my mind or want to stop taking part in the trial?
- What role will my caregiver need to play?
- Will I still see you during the clinical trial process?



Questions you may want to ask the clinical trial coordinator

- How long is the clinical trial?
- Where and how would I receive the treatment?
- If the treatment works for me, can I keep using it after the clinical trial?
- How will my privacy be respected during the clinical trial?
- When and how will the results of the clinical trial be provided to me?
- When will I know which treatment is assigned to me during the trial?
- What is the process for starting on the clinical trial?
- Who will I see during the clinical trial?

Any additional questions you might have

i Bear in mind that your doctor may have already looked into suitable clinical trials for you and not found any; for example, if there are no relevant trials taking place or you do not meet the criteria to enter a particular trial. However, in this instance, they will be able to talk to you about your treatment plan and other potential options.

How else can I prepare?



Think about taking a carer or friend to your doctor's appointment



Take down the details of the clinical trial you are interested in taking part in (if relevant). Useful pieces of information include the trial number, name and site and the requirements for entry. You can find downloadable summaries of Galapagos Phase 2 to 4 clinical trials at www.clinicaltrials-glp.com



Bring something to write notes down on so you can refer back to discussions at a later date

What to expect during the appointment

You and your doctor will:

Discuss the clinical trial you have found and go through the trial's entry criteria to see if it could be suitable for you, or discuss clinical trials more generally and help you find one that might be appropriate for you

Go through next steps, which will involve your doctor contacting the trial site and speaking to the clinical trial coordinator

Go over any further questions you have around the clinical trial process

i At any point during discussions with your doctor or clinical trial coordinator, you can decide that you no longer want to continue with the clinical trial process.



Notes
