



# Ask Questions Before Taking Part in a Research Study

Before you decide to volunteer in a research study, you need to know as much as possible about the study. If there are any issues that concern you, be sure to ask questions. The following is a list of sample questions. Not every question will apply to every study.

Remember, if you do not understand the answer to one of your questions, ask the question again and ask the person to explain the answer in a way you can understand it.

- Who is doing this study and what question might it answer?
- Will this research help in understanding my condition? If so, how?
- What tests or procedures will be done?
- Is it possible that I will receive a placebo (inactive substance)?
- Will I have to make extra trips to the VA?
- What could happen to me, good and bad, if I take part in the study?
- How long will this study last?
- What will happen to any specimens that I give?
- Who has reviewed and approved this study?
- Could my condition get worse during the study? What will happen if it does?
- What other options or choices do I have if I decide not to take part in this study?
- Who will be in charge of my care? Will I be able to continue to see my own doctor?
- Will I be charged anything or paid anything to be in this study?
- If I decide to participate in this study, how will it affect my daily life?
- What will happen to me at the end of the study?
- Will I be told the results of the study?
- Who will find out that I am taking part in this study?
- How do I end my participation in this study if I change my mind?
- Whom do I contact for questions and information about the study?