

## THE CLINICAL TRIAL PARTICIPATION PROCESS

If you and your doctor determine that a clinical trial may be right for you, these are the steps you can expect—designed to help you feel prepared, supported, and in control of your journey.

### 1. Connect

Your doctor connects you with the research team running the trial at a nearby hospital or clinic. This might be your usual care location or a different site in your area.



### 2. Learn

The research team explains the purpose of the study, what to expect, possible benefits and risks, and answers all your questions in plain language. Participation is completely voluntary, and you can leave the study at any time without affecting your regular care.

### 3. Consent

You'll receive an informed consent form—electronically or on paper—summarizing everything that was explained. You sign it only when you feel comfortable moving forward.



### 2. Screening

The team checks whether the trial is a good and safe fit for you. This may include reviewing your medical history, doing a physical exam, and collecting lab tests like bloodwork.

### 5. Random assignment

If you qualify, you are randomly placed into a study group—either a test or control group. Depending on the trial design, you and/or the study team may not know which group you're in.



### 6. Participation

You follow the procedures outlined in the consent form and stay in close communication with the study team. You may have several visits for tests (such as cognitive, physical, or imaging tests). These help the team monitor the treatment's effects and your safety.

### 7. Ongoing Care

You still see your regular doctor for care outside of the study. You continue with trial activities for the full duration of the study—or you can choose to stop at any time.

