Volunteer to be Contacted About Clinical Research Studies

Many groundbreaking medical advances have been made possible because of volunteer participation in clinical research studies. Each study has different requirements, and some are as simple as filling out a survey. Others are more complicated, like taking a new drug, but all studies aim to improve health care in our community and beyond.

Emory University and Emory Healthcare (Emory) invite you to volunteer to be contacted about future clinical and non-clinical research studies. With your permission, we will look at your medical record from time to time to see if you are eligible to participate in studies available at Emory.

Why do people volunteer for studies?

- They are concerned about a particular health condition or illness.
- They want to help other people with the same illness.
- They have a personal interest in research.
- They want to improve health care for family members and/or future generations.

Do I have to be in a study?

No. Being in a study is always your choice. If you are contacted about a certain study, you do not have to participate. We know that participating in studies is not right for everyone.

What happens if I agree to have my medical record reviewed?

- If you want us to contact you about future studies, you will first need to sign an authorization form. Please know that you may cancel the authorization at any time.
- The authorization form allows Emory researchers to check your record from time to time to see if you are eligible to be in a study. If you are, researchers may call you, send you a letter or email you to see if you would like to participate. Participation is completely voluntary.
- You do not have to sign the authorization or participate in clinical studies to receive care from Emory.
- If you have questions about clinical trials or providing authorization for us to review your medical records, please call 404-778-7777. You can also ask your Emory Healthcare provider.

How can I get more involved in clinical research?

- Ask your healthcare provider if he or she is working on any clinical research projects that might be right for you.
- Visit emoryhealthcare.org/clinicaltrials for general information about studies at Emory.
- Join a national research volunteer organization. ResearchMatch is a first-of-its-kind online registry that links research volunteers with researchers across the country. Sign up at researchmatch.org.

What if I change my mind?

- You can cancel (or revoke) the authorization at any time. You will need to fill out a form and submit the request in writing.
- You can find the form to revoke authorization in several places: on the emoryhealthcare.org/clinicaltrials website; from a registration location in the Emory Clinic; or by calling Medical Records at 404-778-4088.

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