

Participating in research is a choice

Joining a research study is an important personal decision. Before you join, researchers will talk with you about the goals of the study and possible risks and benefits. They will also explain the rules they follow to protect your safety and privacy. Ask for help if you don't understand something or have questions.

You should never feel rushed or pressured to make a decision. Being part of a research study is completely voluntary - it's your choice.

After you understand the study, if you decide to take part you will be asked to sign a document called an "informed consent form." You can change your mind at any time, for any reason, even after you sign.

Questions to ask

You have a right to ask questions about blood draws before you decide whether to take part in a research study. You may want to ask the following questions:

- > Are you drawing my blood specifically for the research study or is it also a part of my regular medical care?
- > How much blood will be drawn and how many needles will I have?
- > Who will review my tests?
- > What happens if the tests reveal a medical issue?
- > Will I receive the test results?
- > How will my privacy be protected?
- > How long will you keep my samples?
- > Will my blood samples be used for future research?
- > Will the results of the blood tests become part of my medical record?

BLOOD DRAW FOR RESEARCH



Participating in research is your choice.
Be informed. Ask questions. Get answers.

A blood draw is a way to collect blood for lab testing. Sometimes a blood sample is taken by placing a needle into a vein in your arm, usually near your elbow. Other times, a small needle may be used to prick the fingertip and collect a few drops of blood. The amount of blood drawn depends on the types of tests being done.



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What is different about a blood draw used for research?

If you have a blood draw as part of your regular medical care, your doctor is usually trying to check your health, diagnose a problem, or find out if you are at risk for certain diseases. When blood is drawn as part of a research study, the sample is collected to help answer a scientific question. It is not intended to provide you medical care or detect health problems. Blood draws are part of many types of research studies.

Unlike standard blood draw results, which you and your doctor would discuss, study results might not be discussed with you. It is possible that no one will review your blood sample to look for problems with your health. Your blood sample may become part of a larger group of samples that are studied together and not looked at individually.



How should I prepare for a blood draw?

Talk with the research staff so that you understand how to prepare to have your blood drawn. When a blood draw is part of a research study, additional steps may be needed. The research staff will go over this information with you.

What are the risks from a blood draw?

Blood draws are quite safe. There are no known major risks to having your blood drawn. You may experience slight pain or a stinging sensation when the needle pierces the skin.

Any study may involve risks; the informed consent form for your research study will explain any specific risks. Make sure you understand the risks of blood draws before you agree to take part.

