You may have many questions about participating in a clinical trial. Before entering into medical research, make sure you are comfortable. Talking with your doctor about the questions you have may put you more at ease. Consider taking a family member or friend along for support and for help in asking questions or recording answers.

Here are some questions to help start the conversation:

1. What is the purpose of the clinical trial?
2. Why do researchers think the approach may be effective?
3. How long will the clinical trial last?
4. What will my responsibilities be if I participate?
5. What are the possible risks and benefits?
6. What other options do people with my condition have?
7. What kinds of therapies, procedures, and/or tests will I have during the clinical trial?
8. How do the medical tests in the study compare with those I would have outside of the clinical trial?
9. Where will I have my medical care and who will be in charge of my care?
10. How could being in this clinical trial affect my daily life?
11. Can I talk to other people in the clinical trial?
12. Will I have to pay for any part of the clinical trial, such as tests or the clinical trial drug?