Clinical Trial Decision Tree

Yes

No

I am interested in finding out if there may be a clinical trial out there for me?

Yes. Talk to your doctor to see if he or she is aware of any clinical trials that you may be qualified for and what is involved. You might also look on clinicaltrials.gov and search to see if there is one that might work for you.

Do you know what the benefits of the trial are for you?

No. First, think about what benefits you would like to get from the trial—anything from advancing research or being able to have access to a new device or medication. Make sure you understand the benefits of the trial and that they are aligned with what you want to gain from participation.

There is a clinical trial that applies to me.

Yes. Work with your doctor to see if you are qualified. You may have to see another doctor or specialist to determine if you are qualified for the trial.

You are qualified for the trial and want to know more. Do you know what is expected of you?

No. Talk to the trial coordinator until you get a good feel for the time that is involved, what your responsibilities are, and what tests and procedures may be needed to participate in the trial and how often.

Is travel involved?

Yes. You will want to find out what travel is involved, how often, and how long you will need to stay. Also, ask what expenses might be covered and what expenses are not covered.

Do you know what time period the trial lasts?

No. Ask the trial coordinator how long the trial lasts and how often you will have medical visits, tests and/or procedures, telephone calls, emails, etc. for the trial.

Do you know who to contact with questions and/or concerns?

No. Be sure to get contact information for the trial coordinator and other key people involved in the trial so you can ask questions, express concerns, and get more information when you need it.

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