

Vaccine Clinical Trials and Your Child: What to Expect



Vaccines protect against many common infections and are considered to be one of the greatest public health advances of all time. In the last 50 years, the World Health Organization estimates that 101 million children's lives worldwide have been saved by vaccines.







Why is it important for children to take part in vaccine clinical trials?

- Participation from children in clinical trials helps us develop vaccines that are safe and effective for children.
- Children's bodies are still developing, and the vaccines used in adults may affect them differently, which is why potential new vaccines have to be studied in both adults and children.
- Clinical trials provide valuable data about how well vaccines work and whether they are safe for **children of all ages**.

What happens in a vaccine clinical trial?

This depends on the **protocol**, the detailed plan for the study and schedule of study activities.

These details include:

-  Information about who can participate
-  The length of the clinical trial
-  The study vaccines, procedures, and tests in the clinical trial
-  The schedule of study visits
-  How side effects will be tracked, managed, and reported
-  The rules that must be followed

If you are considering enrolling your child in a vaccine clinical trial, these details will be explained to you as part of the **informed consent process**.

How does being in a clinical trial impact my child's medical care?

- If your child participates, the clinical trial will provide study-related medical care, and your child's regular doctors will address the other aspects of your child's health.
- Your child's regular doctors can also work with the study team to understand the details of the study and any impact it may have on their medical care.

Participating in a clinical trial is an important and personal decision—especially when it involves your child.

We're committed to improving the health and well-being of children around the world through thoughtfully designed clinical trials that give special consideration to children and their needs. If you have any questions about your child's participation, don't hesitate to ask your study team.

[Scan the QR code to watch a short video about vaccine clinical trials in children.]

