

What to Expect

Clinical studies are any studies that involve people.

There are two main types:



OBSERVATIONAL

Researchers track health outcomes over time in groups of participants to look for patterns that help us better understand a disease.



INTERVENTIONAL

Participants receive specific interventions such as a new treatment or behavioral changes, like diet.

STEPS TO BEGIN



Find a trial at

NephCure.org/StudyFinder



Talk to your doctor



Determine eligibility



Learn about the study



Sign forms



Make it happen!

Good questions to ask about all clinical studies:

- Why is the study being done?
- How many different hospitals are involved in the study?
- Who is supporting the study (such as the NIH or a drug company)?
- How do I know if I am eligible?
- How long will the study last?
- What will happen to me when I'm in the study?
- Will I need to miss school or work if I join the study?
- How often will I have to come in for visits and can the study be combined with the regular visits to my kidney doctor?
- Will the study pay for travel, parking, or my time?
- Will I get to know the results of the study?

Additional questions about interventional studies:

- Is this the right time to think about changing treatments for my kidney disease?
- What is the treatment?
- Why does my doctor think I would benefit from being in the study?
- What are the risks of being in the study (like medication side effects)?
- Does everyone in the study get the treatment or are some patients assigned to no treatment (often called placebo)?
- Can I continue with the treatment when the study ends?