

Every day researchers at the University of Illinois at Chicago are exploring new ideas aimed at preventing, treating or curing disease and improving our ability to live longer, healthier lives.

Unfortunately there is a very real shortage of research volunteers whose participation in studies could help move these potentially life-changing ideas into the clinics and hospital where they might benefit patients.

Because it can be difficult for people to find studies that fit their needs, and for researchers to find people who fit their studies, the University of Illinois at Chicago launched the UI Health Research Registry.

We invite you to learn more about this research matchmaking portal and how it can help you make a difference in the lives of others and the health of our communities.

We want to create a healthier future by changing the way people get involved in research. Be heard, make a difference and learn more about participating in research today!



go.uic.edu/healthresearch



We're here to answer any questions!

Feel free to contact our friendly staff to learn more about taking part in health research.

Phone:

Email: healthresearch@uic.edu

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BE HEARD. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH.

What UIC Research Volunteers Need to Know

Who participates in research?

Research volunteers take part in studies for many different reasons, but they generally fall into one of two categories:

- Healthy volunteers may want to play a role in helping find new, more effective treatments that can save lives.
- Volunteers who have existing medical concerns may want to help find out if new treatments work or how they compare to old treatments, or to help people with the same conditions live better lives in the future.

Researchers now understand that some treatments work differently in women, children and minority groups. It's important that we understand how medicines can be used to get the best results for everyone.

Why should I be part of a health research study?

One benefit to people with a disease or medical condition is that they may receive a new treatment or the additional care and attention from clinical trial staff.

Another reason to get involved is the ability to help others and move science forward. Participating in research is a great way to help prevent and treat the diseases someone you know may have. It's also an opportunity to have your voice heard in the research process and make sure your- and your community's- needs are being met.

What steps are involved in signing up for a research study?

People thinking about taking part in health research should talk with their doctors, family, friends or other medical caregivers. They should also take time to carefully review the Informed Consent form. This process involves participants receiving written information about the nature and purpose of a research study, as well as the risks and benefits involved.

How long does a research study last?

It depends, but in general studies can range from a one-time online survey, to one or more clinical visits, to an overnight stay at the hospital.

How does the volunteer work with the research team?

The role of the research team is to provide care, keep track of the volunteer's health, and communicate information about the study. Team members may include doctors, nurses, social workers, dietitians, study coordinators and other health professionals.

How safe is it to participate in health research?

Making sure volunteers are safe is very important in all research studies. For example, before any study can start at the University of Illinois at Chicago, it must be approved by a team of doctors, experts and community members called the Institutional Review Board. For safety reasons, not every person may be eligible for every study.

How is a volunteer's privacy protected?

All privacy information for each study is explained in detail in the Informed Consent form that participating volunteers are asked to review and sign. You can ask questions at any time, even if you have already signed the consent form.

Do people get paid for research?

Participants do sometimes get a little money or other compensation- like a gift card- for their time or travel.

What else should I know about becoming a research volunteer?

When deciding whether or not to volunteer for a study, it is important to make a choice that is best for you. If you change your mind after agreeing to participate, you may still withdraw from the study at any time.

Also, if you do not want to be part of a study, it will not change the health care your doctor gives you in the future or your relationship to the institution conducting the study.

Know Your Rights!

Learn more about health research, rules and regulations, how you are protected and ways to volunteer for yourself or a loved one at:

go.uic.edu/Participant_FAQs

Tomorrow's answers start with YOU TODAY!



Visit go.uic.edu/healthresearch to search for open research studies at UIC.



Show interest in a study you think you are a good match for.



Securely communicate with study teams from within the portal.



Become a UIC Health Research Volunteer!