MRCT CENTER
THE MULTI-REGIONAL
CLINICAL TRIALS CENTER OF
BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL
AND HARVARD

What is...
Clinical Research?

Is it ***clinical research***, ***clinical trials***, or ***clinical studies***?

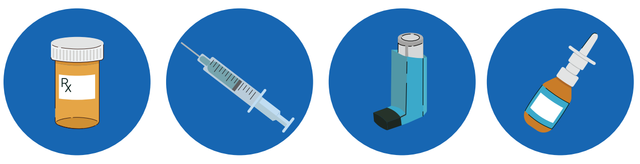
It's all three!

These are all similar ways to describe how we learn new things about how to **prevent**, **identify**, and **treat diseases**.

Let's keep things simple and just call it "**research**".

Know Your Vocab!
click here to open the cheat sheet

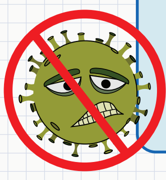
Think of all the medicines and vaccines **that keep you healthy**.



They were all tested through clinical research.

Research is done for lots of different reasons:

- To test new drugs, devices, or other treatments
- To improve existing treatments
- To figure out why people get sick
- To learn how to prevent people from getting sick



Who participates in research?

Research can include:

- young people
- old people
- healthy people
- people with a certain illness
- a mix of people

So, who leads research?

People who lead research are called investigators.

Doctors, scientists, and others can be investigators.

What's the difference between going to the doctor and participating in research?

MEDICAL CARE	RESEARCH
Your doctor helps **you** stay healthy or feel better.	Investigators are trying to learn new things that might help **other people**.
Lila might get a shot during her annual check up to prevent her from getting the flu.	Seema might participate in a study that tests whether a new kind inhaler is better than an old one.

Will research help me?

Some research may help you but there's no way to know if it will.

Can I still see my own doctor if I participate in research?

Yes!

Even though you might be seeing someone else for research, you can still see your own doctor or another doctor for check-ups, sick visits, and other things.

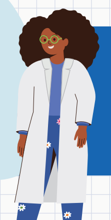
Can I get hurt if I participate?

Research is done in ways to keep people safe.

You can ask the study team about the risks of the study at any time.

Ask any questions you have!

Questions?



You have the right to know!

You can learn more at:

mrctcenter.org/for-kids

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