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

# What happens... When I Turn 18?

Know Your Vocab!
click here to open the cheat sheet

When you turn 18 years old you're a legal adult and you can make your own decisions about participating in research.




## Before you're 18...

### Consent

When you joined the study as a minor, your parent or guardian provided their permission or "**consent**" for you to participate in the research study.



### Assent

You may have also given your agreement or "**assent**" to participate.



## When you turn 18...

If you're enrolled in research, to continue participating you'll have to give **your consent.**



The age when you're considered a legal adult depends on the state or country you live in, but it's usually 18.

### Why would I say YES to staying in the study?

Some research studies test new treatments.

So, by participating you may be helping others in the future.

I'd like to keep participating



Also, you may have benefited from the treatment you've been receiving in the study.

### Why would I say NO to staying in the study?

There may be risks to participating.

Plus, you may not have noticed any benefit to the treatment you've been getting in the study.

I'd rather not



Finally, you might have other ways you'd prefer to spend your time.

## How do I give consent?

First, the research team will explain how the study works.

You can ask any questions you have about the study.



You can take as long as you want to talk about it with your friends and family.



Once you're sure you understand everything you want to know, you can make your decision.

I'd like to keep participating

I'd rather not

If you decide you do want to participate, you'll sign the **informed consent form.**



## What happens to information or samples that were already collected?

Generally, the information that has already been collected when you were a minor may still be used in the research.

For samples, it depends on the study.

## Do I need to worry about privacy?

There are many ways your information is kept private.

If you have any specific questions, ask the research team.

You have **rights** when you participate in research:

- To ask any questions you have.
- To be treated with respect and care.
- To understand what the study is about and what will happen when you join.
- To be told about other options instead of being in the study.
- To understand all study forms.
- To choose whether or not to join the study.
- To get a copy of the consent form if you say yes.
- To change your mind after the study starts.

## Questions?

Ask any questions you have!





You have the right to know!

You can learn more at:

**mrctcenter.org/for-kids**

www.icanresearch.org
ICAN Approved
International Children's Advisory Network

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