



Frequently Asked Questions –Clinical Research

What is Clinical Research?

Clinical research is the study of new medicines and/or medical devices as well as comparisons between current medicines which may improve treatment of a disease. These new medicines are developed through the combined efforts of pharmaceutical companies, universities, government, physicians and patients in medical practice. Participation of patients is an essential part of this development. Several trials take place over a period of time until a new drug or device is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and can be made available by prescription.

Why Do Colorado Allergy & Asthma Centers Consider It Important to Participate in Clinical Research?

- To contribute to medical progress and advancement
- To influence the future of drug availability and cost for our own and other patients
- To remain at the forefront of knowledge in our profession and specialty, to provide the best and most up-to-date treatment for our patients
- To make available to our patients otherwise unobtainable medications
- To enable patients and medical staff to gain first-hand knowledge of promising new drugs and devices

Researching a drug or device from its discovery to the time it becomes available usually takes more than ten years! New treatments and medications developed by researchers are carefully tested for effectiveness and safety. The well-being of each and every patient is of primary concern and we are guided by strict FDA regulations.

When new drugs or devices appear promising in the treatment of allergy and asthma, our doctors and study staff participate in clinical trials to evaluate these products.

Why Should I Participate?

The individuals who participate in clinical research at Colorado Allergy and Asthma Centers, P.C. are mainly from our own practice. The overwhelming number of patients who do participate in research are pleased with and appreciative of the experience, but there are pros and cons to involvement in clinical trials.

Will I Benefit By Participating?

Possible benefits include:

- The opportunity to contribute to the development of medical treatments for you and for others.
- Especially close observation of your allergies and asthma by experienced staff. As a result more can be learned about your disease and how best to treat and how to minimize any problems from it for you, your child and family, and your physician.
- All drugs under study are provided at no charge, and additional medications and beneficial medical tests may also be provided.
- Monetary compensation for your time, efforts and travel expenses.

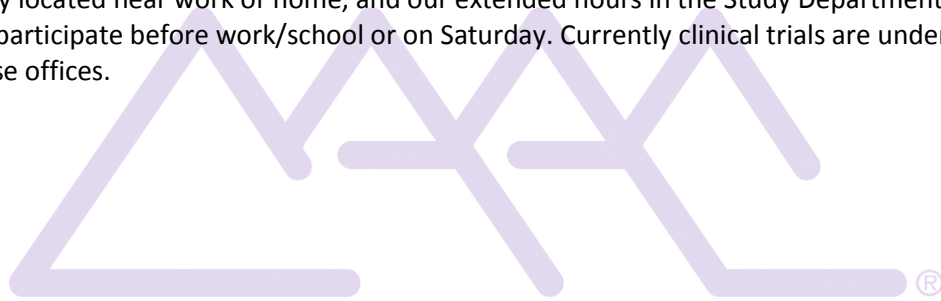
On the other hand, most studies have a “placebo” possibility. A placebo is a “dummy” that contains no active medication and is used to sort out a possible treatment effect. We are all unaware as to who might be selected at random to be on placebo or active drug. (This is called “double-blinded randomized” selection as to treatment.) Thus, neither the patient nor our medical staff can predict or select which patient gets active study drug or placebo. However, as a safety factor, all patients are allowed a “back-up” or “rescue” medication to use as needed throughout the study to treat symptoms that are not controlled by the study drug or placebo.

How Long Will The Study Last?

Most allergy studies will last approximately 3 weeks, while asthma studies typically last approximately 3 months. However, studies can last from 2 weeks to 1 or more years. The number of visits and the length of time at each visit are explained to you before you decide whether or not you want to participate

Will Locations and Times Be Convenient?

Our Denver and Centennial offices have specifically dedicated study staffs who work along with our Colorado Allergy and Asthma Centers physician investigators in these offices. These offices are often conveniently located near work or home, and our extended hours in the Study Department allow patients to participate before work/school or on Saturday. Currently clinical trials are under way at each of these offices.



COLORADO ALLERGY & ASTHMA CENTERS, P.C.

Breathe Better - Live Better!