

A Day in the Life of the Study Visit

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BECOME A HERO!

Behind the launch of every new medication and treatment that becomes available to prolong or improve our lives are people like you who gave the gift of their time to participate in a clinical trial. Clinical trials are an essential step in proving the efficacy and safety of any medicine or treatment approved for widespread use in the United States. Arthritis and Rheumatism Associates is pleased to be part of the never-ending search for better therapies through The Center for Rheumatology and Bone Research (CRBR). We began participating in clinical trials in 1982 and have since helped evaluate new drugs for a wide range of rheumatological conditions.

Your ARA physician may invite you to participate in a clinical trial to potentially give you access to a drug that he or she thinks may benefit you. Naturally, many questions might run through your mind:

- *Is the drug being tested safe?*
- *Will it make me feel better?*
- *Could it have side effects or make me feel worse?*
- *How does a clinical trial work?*
- *Do I qualify to participate in a clinical trial?*

If you meet the predetermined criteria and wish to learn more, you will be seen in a treatment room just like any other in the practice except it will be located in the CRBR. You will be greeted by a clinical research coordinator who will welcome you to our study department. The coordinator will explain exactly how the study is being

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