

Role of Principal Investigator

The PI assumes the overall responsibility for all clinical research activities and ensures that the study is run in accordance with the requirements of the relevant regulatory agencies and the Guidelines for Good Clinical Practice.

These responsibilities include:

- 1) Conducting and supervising the research activities, e.g. ensuring that the protocol is scientifically sound and of value and the facility is equipped (personnel, equipment, space, funding) to perform the research.**
- 2) Obtaining all necessary approval, specifically Institutional Review Board approval .**
- 3) Select personnel that is qualifies and certified to perform the tasks they are assigned to during the trial.**
- 4) Protect the rights, safety and welfare of the study participants e.g. by ensuring that the study is performed in accordance with all applicable regulatory requirements.**



FDA 1572

As physicians we all sign contracts.

As Principal Investigator you will sign a contract with the Federal Government.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION		Form Approved: OMB No. 0910-0014 Expiration Date: March 31, 2022 See OMB Statement on Reverse.	
STATEMENT OF INVESTIGATOR <i>(TITLE 21, CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS (CFR) PART 312)</i> (See instructions on reverse side.)		NOTE: No Investigator may participate in an investigation until he/she provides the sponsor with a completed, signed Statement of Investigator, Form FDA 1572 (21 CFR 312.53(c)).	
1. NAME AND ADDRESS OF INVESTIGATOR			
Name of Clinical Investigator			
Address 1		Address 2	
City	State/Province/Region	Country	ZIP or Postal Code
2. EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE THAT QUALIFY THE INVESTIGATOR AS AN EXPERT IN THE CLINICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE DRUG FOR THE USE UNDER INVESTIGATION. ONE OF THE FOLLOWING IS PROVIDED (Select one of the following.)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum Vitae		<input type="checkbox"/> Other Statement of Qualifications	
3. NAME AND ADDRESS OF ANY MEDICAL SCHOOL, HOSPITAL, OR OTHER RESEARCH FACILITY WHERE THE CLINICAL INVESTIGATION(S) WILL BE CONDUCTED			CONTINUATION PAGE for Item 3
Name of Medical School, Hospital, or Other Research Facility			
Address 1		Address 2	
City	State/Province/Region	Country	ZIP or Postal Code
4. NAME AND ADDRESS OF ANY CLINICAL LABORATORY FACILITIES TO BE USED IN THE STUDY			CONTINUATION PAGE for Item 4
Name of Clinical Laboratory Facility			
Address 1		Address 2	
City	State/Province/Region	Country	ZIP or Postal Code
5. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (IRB) THAT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE STUDY(IES)			CONTINUATION PAGE for Item 5
Name of IRB			
Address 1		Address 2	
City	State/Province/Region	Country	ZIP or Postal Code
6. NAMES OF SUBINVESTIGATORS (If not applicable, enter "None")			
			CONTINUATION PAGE – for Item 6
7. NAME AND CODE NUMBER, IF ANY, OF THE PROTOCOL(S) IN THE IND FOR THE STUDY(IES) TO BE CONDUCTED BY THE INVESTIGATOR			

Pharmaceutical Sponsored vs Investigator Initiated

Multisite Clinical Trials – Pharmaceutical Grants

- Protocols are provided to the site
- Some or all of the clinical supplies are provided
- Number of participants may vary from a 100 to several thousand
- Pharmaceutical company oversees the conduct of the trial
- Central or Local Institutional Review Board

Investigator Initiated Clinical Trials – Federal, Patient Advocacy, Private Foundations, University

- Principal Investigator develops and writes the protocol
- Clinical supplies are provided by the investigator
- Small number of participants
- Local Institutional Review Board

What will my day look like?

Private practice patients and study participants



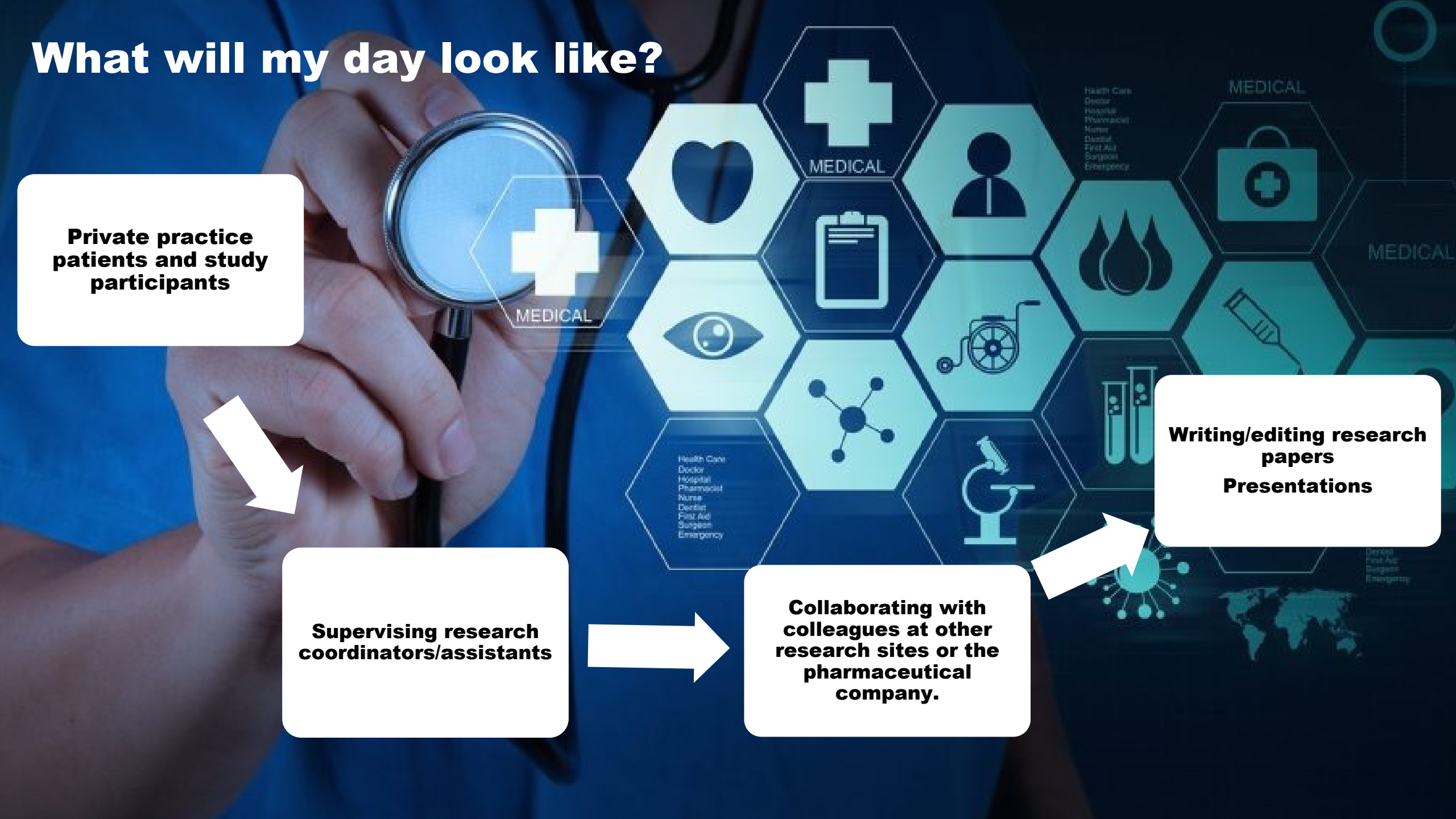
Supervising research coordinators/assistants



Collaborating with colleagues at other research sites or the pharmaceutical company.



**Writing/editing research papers
Presentations**



Clinical Research vs Clinical Practice

Clinical Practice

Safety and well being

Expectation of treatment

FDA approved medication

Off Label prescriptions as agreed between the physician and patient

Patient appointments are determined by patient and/or insurance coverage

Fees are paid by the patient or third party.

Patients do not receive compensation for their time and efforts.

Both the patient and physician know what is being prescribed.

Clinical Research

Safety and well being

No expectation of treatment

Investigational Product

FDA approved medication that is being tested in a particular patient population or new disease

Participant visits are set by the protocol and must be followed.

The PI may have additional appointment based on their discretion for safety.

The sponsor pharmaceutical company pays the PI for the entire study.

Participants frequently receive a stipend for their time and efforts.

In double blind trials neither the physician nor the participant knows.

Consent: Mission Critical in research



Consent for procedures & release of information are obtained in practice.

In Clinical Research, consent/assent is obtained **BEFORE** any aspect of the trial may be executed.

- Informed Consent Forms will be scrutinized by the IRB, FDA, Sponsor.
- They must be signed/dated.
- The participant must receive a sign/dated copy.
- The process must be documented, and signed off.



- **Check In – Warm**
- **Determined by need of patient and decision of MD**
 - **Vital Signs**
 - **Examinations**
 - **Laboratory**
 - **Scans/Procedures**
 - **Follow Up**
- **Conversation – Warm, caring, concerned, congenial**

- **Check In – Neutral**
- **Protocol Determines**
 - **Vital Signs**
 - **Examinations**
 - **Laboratory**
 - **Scans/Procedures**
 - **Follow up**
- **MD may override any and all to protect participant safety**
- **Conversation – Neutral, caring**

Why the neutrality?

Placebo Response the growing conundrum in clinical research

Maintaining the blind is paramount in clinical research. It is a medical myth that only CNS trials have “placebo response.”

Which of the following studies have not had placebo responses in clinical trials?

- 1. Hypertension**
- 2. Diabetes Mellitus**
- 3. Rheumatoid Arthritis**
- 4. Seizure Disorders**
- 5. Knee Replacement**

Over the past 25 years there has been a logarithmic increase in placebo response across all disease states.

We are now seeing clinical trial effects in long term oncology trials. Where the participants general health and sense of well being declines when the trial concludes, even when they remain on the same treatment regimen, they were on during the trial

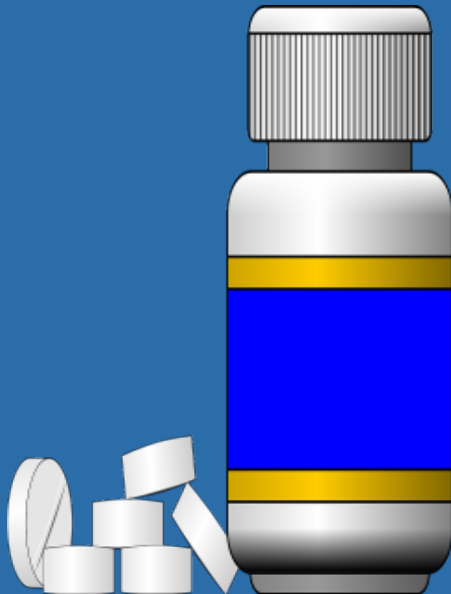
Trust and honest communication between the PI and their participants is imperative.

Dampening the hype and hyperbole surrounding a new compound

Understanding that we are in this experiment together



In practice you write a prescription and in clinical research ...



Medications

- **FDA approved**
 - **Off label used**
- **May be written at physician's discretion, within state laws.**
- **Patient picks up at pharmacy**
- **No accountability**
- **You are not responsible for the chain of custody**
- **You are not responsible for how the patient takes or doesn't comply with treatment**
- **You are not responsible for monitoring on site storage requirements**

Investigational Product

- **NOT FDA approved**
 - **FDA approved may be in trials**
- **Protocol directs how IP is to be administered**
- **Site dispenses/administers IP**
- **Accountability is documented at every visit**
- **You are responsible for chain of custody from the time the IP arrives onsite to when it is shipped back to the depot**
- **Storage conditions are determined by the protocol**
- **NO PRIOR authorizations!!!!**



Clinical Research Staff

The ultimate responsibility for the conduct of the trial is the Principal Investigator.

- ❖ Site Director
- ❖ Front Desk
- ❖ Clinical Coordinators/Research Assistants
- ❖ Laboratory Technicians
- ❖ Recruitment Specialists
- ❖ Data Entry
- ❖ Regulatory Specialists
- ❖ Sub-Investigators

Integration of the pieces of the puzzle occurs with regular communication and collaboration. As research is a highly regulated and strictly monitored environment all the pieces must fit precisely.

Collegiality

Principal Investigator

**Principal Investigator
At other sites**

Medical Monitors

Protocol Design

Recruitment

Operational Aspects

Results

Investigator Meetings

Ad hoc Meetings

Emails

Telephone





Academic Research

MD/PhD, MD/MS, MD/MPH

- The PhD, MS, MPH may be obtained prior to medical school, in combination, or after residency

Research Project Grant [RO1]

- Original and oldest mechanism by NIH
- Supports health-related research

Pharmaceutical Grants

- University and Industry collaboration

Patient Care

Teaching

Scholarly Journal Articles/Texts

Presentations

**Broad Range of
Therapeutic
Areas**

**Inpatient &
Outpatient**

**Early to Late
Phase**

Pain

- Post Operative
- Chronic

Endocrine

- Diabetes Mellitus
- Thyroid

Cardiovascular

Hepatic

Renal

Central Nervous System

- Alzheimer's
- MDD
- Schizophrenia
- GAD/OCD/PTSD
- Autism

Vaccines

- COVID
- Influenza
- Lyme's Disease

Rare Diseases

Women's Health

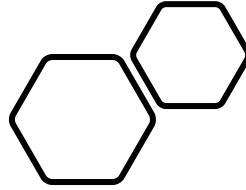
Evolution Research Group



Evolution Research Group



What it means to be part of ERG



Professional Opportunities

- **Clinical Trials**
- **Professional Meetings**
- **Collaboration**

Administrative Support

- **Staffing**
- **Human Resources**

Regulatory Support

Technologic Support



Can I publish?

Must I publish?

Collaboration on scientific papers.

Presentations at national and international conferences.

Participation on panels.

High level discussions with regulatory agencies.

All are part of a PI's professional life if they choose.

In private clinical research these activities are not necessary to be successful.



**As a Physician Investigator you are the
cutting edge of medicine.**

