



Depression and Bipolar
Support Alliance

Find Community.

Find Wellness.

Find Hope.™

Understanding the Study

- What treatment is the clinical trial studying?
- Who is paying for the trial?
- Has this been approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB)?
- How does the study make sure the process is transparent and culturally responsive for participants?

Location, Time Commitment, and Logistics

- How long will the trial last?
- Where will the trial take place? Is hospitalization required?
- How much time will I have to commit to participating in the clinical trial?
- How often will the study personnel need to see me? How long will the visits be?
- What time of day should I schedule appointments?
- Can I continue to see my own doctor while in the trial?

Treatment Plan and Medication Questions

- Will I have to discontinue my present treatment(s)? If so, could this harm my health?
- If I can stay on my present medication(s), will taking experimental medication be bad for my health?
- If I am involved in a “crossover” clinical trial, can I go back to the first treatment I received if it worked better than the second treatment?
- Will everyone involved in the clinical trial get the same treatment?
 - If not, what are my chances of receiving an existing treatment or a placebo?
 - What else will I have a chance of receiving?
- If I don’t receive the new treatment during the clinical trial, will I have an opportunity to try it at the end?
- If I receive the new treatment and it helps me, will I be able to continue using it after the trial ends?
- If I have bipolar disorder, what will happen if the treatment makes me rapid cycle or manic?

Risks, Safety, and Emergency Protocols

- What are the possible side effects and/or risks?
- What will be done if I experience side effects during the clinical trial?
- Will I be promptly informed of any findings that might make me want to drop out—for example, if the experimental medication can make me ill?

Confidentiality, Rights, and Legal Protections

- What procedures are in place to ensure my confidentiality?
- Can I drop out at any time, for any reason?
- Can I sue if I suffer injury?

Costs, Compensation, and Support

- Are there any fees associated with the study?
- Will I be paid for my participation?
- What kind of follow-up care will I receive after the trial is completed?

Get the information you need to make an informed choice about participating.

DBSAlliance.org