

# **BECOMING A RESEARCH VOLUNTEER:**

## **IT'S YOUR DECISION**

### **What Is Research?**

- § Research is a study that is done to answer a question.
- § Scientists do research because they don't know for sure what works best to help you.
- § Some other words that describe research are clinical trial, protocol, survey, or experiment.
- § Research is not the same as treatment.

### **Why Is Research Important?**

Research has led to important discoveries that make our lives better. Some examples are:

- § New drugs to treat cancer, diabetes, and other diseases
- § Ultrasound, X-ray machines, and diagnostic tests
- § Vaccines
- § Ways to stop smoking
- § Improved medical procedures

### **Points to Consider**

- § A research study may or may not help you personally.
- § In the future, the results could help others who have a health problem.
- § Taking part in research is voluntary.

***Someday, you or a family member may want to take part in a research study. If this happens, the information here may help you make the right decision.***

### **Questions to Ask**

- § What exactly will happen to me in the research?
- § Will there be any unpleasant side effects?
- § Will the research help me personally?
- § What other options do I have?
- § Can I leave the study at any time?
- § Will it cost me anything personally?

### **Research discoveries can improve people's health.**

Before you decide to become a research volunteer, get the facts:

- § Know what you're getting into.
- § Ask questions.
- § Learn as much as you can.
- § Know the pros and cons.

### **It's Your Decision**

For more information call:

The Nemours Office of Human Subjects Protection: 904-697-4023