

Clinical Research Studies with VRC

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.



**If you have questions,
we have answers.**

If you've never participated in a clinical study before, you probably have some questions about the process and what to expect. That's what this brochure is for - to help you better understand what will happen and your role.



**Call us at 1-888-474-6665 to
find out now if you qualify.**



What you should know before the study begins

Why is the VRC doing a study?

Our clinical research studies are requested by a sponsor company, to test new contact lenses and related products to see if they improve vision, comfort, and fit for contact lens wearers.

Who can participate?

To participate in our research studies, you must have healthy eyes, and be a current soft contact lens wearer. In addition, each study has specific requirements that must be met for you to participate. These are called inclusion and exclusion criteria.

Why should I participate?

Without your help and involvement, there would be fewer advances in contact lenses, solutions and other optical products. By participating, you play an important part in the development of future designs and materials. And you'll be compensated \$50 per hour for your time.

Are there risks to participating?

All contact lenses and contact lens products have the potential to cause injury to the eye. However, due to the nature and duration of our clinical trials, the risks of participating are extremely low. You could potentially experience the following symptoms with the use of contact lens products: pain, abrasion of the eye, itching, burning or stinging, excessive tearing, unusual secretions, redness, reduced sharpness of vision, and sensitivity to light.

How long will the study last?

The study protocol will determine how long the study will last. Before you agree to participate, a VRC Study Coordinator will explain the details of the study, and explain your responsibilities as a participant. There are studies that only require a single visit, while other studies require multiple visits over several weeks.

When do the studies take place?

Clinical studies take place during the clinic hours at the VRC. The study appointments are scheduled Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7:00 am and 7:00 pm.

Will I still need to continue my yearly eye exams with my own optometrist if I participate in clinical studies?

Yes, a yearly eye health exam and contact lens evaluation exam with your eye care professional is recommended for all VRC contact lens study participants.

How do I participate if I'm interested?

You can either call 1-888-474-6665 or [answer the questions online](#) to find out if you qualify. You'll be asked some pre-screening questions to determine if you meet the basic criteria necessary for study participation. If you meet the basic requirements, we'll schedule a screening appointment to evaluate your vision and overall eye health.

What you need to know during and after the study

What are my rights as a participant?

- No clinical study procedures will be performed on you without your informed consent (approval).
- VRC staff members are required to inform you of anything related to the study, which may affect your willingness to participate.
- You have the right to ask any questions related to the study and everyone on staff has an obligation to answer truthfully.
- Any information that can identify you is private and confidential.
- Your participation is voluntary and you can withdraw at any time.
- As a participant, you have the right to direct any concerns or complaints to the FDA.

What happens during the visits to the clinic?

Your study visits may include many of the same procedures performed in your optometrist's office. The clinical staff will have you try on contact lenses, evaluate your vision and record all findings. There will be visual performance testing related to vision, comfort and fit of the lenses and products dispensed. You'll answer questions related to your contact lens wearing experience during the course of the study.

How will I get the contact lenses or contact lens products?

The contact lenses and contact lens products used in our clinical studies are either FDA approved and commercially available, or investigational. Investigational lenses and products are not yet approved by the Food and Drug Administration for general dispensing to the public. All contact lenses and products will be dispensed at the VRC by the clinical research staff, as outlined in the study protocol.

If the contact lenses work for me, can I keep using them after the study has ended?

The VRC is a research-only facility, so we don't provide contact lenses for personal use. You'll need to return all of the contact lenses and/or contact lens products once the study is over.

How do I get compensated?

When you qualify and agree to participate, you'll receive a reloadable credit card. Three to five days after each visit, we'll reload it with your compensation.

What if I decide I don't want to be in the study?

Study participation is totally voluntary, so you have the right to accept or decline participation, based on the information provided to you related to the study requirements and your responsibilities as a participant. You may discontinue your participation in a study at any time.

At VRC, we value your participation and interest - so please call 1-888-474-6665 if you have any additional questions.