Reducing the Risk of HIV and Hepatitis-C Infection: A Research Study

Should I Sign Up?
INTRODUCTION

You have taken the first important step to recovery from your drug addiction by coming into treatment. By joining this research study, you may get further help in staying protected from HIV and hepatitis C (HCV).

THE STUDY

The purpose of this study is to examine two different types of treatments, compared to the usual treatment and referrals offered by this clinic, on reducing behaviors that increase risk for HIV and HCV.

One study condition provides the usual risk assessment and referrals offered by this clinic. The other two study conditions provide the usual procedures offered by the clinic in addition to one other test treatment condition.

One of the test conditions adds two 30-45 minutes counseling and education sessions about positive behaviors that could decrease the risks of HIV and/or HCV with the opportunity for free HIV/HCV testing. These sessions will be about two weeks apart.

The other test condition involves meeting with a therapist for about one hour. During this meeting, overall treatment options and goals will be discussed.
WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

A staff member will help determine if you are eligible to be part of this study. The first step is entering into this clinic’s detoxification unit.

WHAT WILL I NEED TO DO?

Your participation in this study is voluntary and you may refuse to participate or stop at any time. Whether you decide to participate, or not, the usual services provided by this clinic are still available to you.

If you wish to be part of the study, you will first be asked to give your written consent. You will be interviewed about your drug use and sexual practices. You will also be asked to provide a urine sample to screen for drugs of abuse and an alcohol saliva test. After that, you will be assigned to one of the three conditions. With two of those conditions, you will be introduced to a counselor today, or very soon. In the third condition, you will receive the usual risk assessment and referrals offered by this clinic.

Over the next few months, you will be asked to participate in several interviews and urine tests. The initial interview session, saliva test, and urine screen will take place soon; perhaps even today. The second interview session and urine screen will be in about two weeks. After that, you will come back for follow-up interviews and urine screens in 2, 4, and 6 months from the first interview session. Each of these interview sessions could last up to three hours, but in most cases the interview session will be a shorter length of time. These interviews will include questions about your drug use and sex-
How will I know which treatment condition I will receive?

After your first interview session, you will be randomly assigned to one of three study conditions. A computer located away from this site will determine your assignment, by a procedure similar to the toss of a coin, which cannot be changed. Participating in any of these treatments will not affect your regular drug detoxification treatment.

What will I get for participating in this study?

Taking part in this study may help you reduce your risk of HIV and HCV. You will get more monitoring of your symptoms during the study than during the regular treatment program. In addition, you will be paid $25 for the first interview session, $25 for the second interview session 2 weeks later, $30 for the 2-month interview session, and $35 for the 4 and 6-month interview sessions. You will also receive $5 if you return a reminder letter at the 2-week and the 2, 4, and 6-month visits. The total amount you can receive for participating is $170.
For more information about the study, please call our study coordinator:

Name

Phone Number
For more information about this study, contact the research assistant working with this clinic.

For more information on the National Drug Abuse Treatment Clinical Trials Network, visit the NIDA website at www.drugabuse.gov.

For information on other clinical trials, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has created a website to help patients, family members, and the general public obtain information about government-sponsored clinical trials. You may log on to www.Clinicaltrials.gov to learn about ongoing or new trials for all types of health-related conditions. The descriptions for individual trials included eligibility criteria, purpose of the trial, location, and how to apply if interested. The website is maintained and updated regularly by the National Library of Medicine.

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