



WHAT IS BIO-LINKED?

It is an electronic roster of people willing to help researchers find cures and treatments. You submit a confidential, self-managed, profile of only the medical and social information you are willing to offer. This allows us to then anonymously search to find people who meet re-search needs

WHAT HAPPENS TO MY INFORMATION?

Your encrypted data is stored in a private, secure database which is used to locate people with specific medical, family and social backgrounds that match-up with research opportunities.

WHO CAN SEE MY INFORMATION?

Only you and authorized a few restricted staff at our blood center can see your answers to questionnaires. Your information will never, be shared with anyone else, unless you consent, in writing. You have trusted us for decades as a blood donor and we will never break that trust.

HOW WILL MY INFORMATION BE USED?

Many scientists contact our blood center for help with clinical trials and basic research. The researchers are often looking for people with very specific conditions or symptoms. When a researcher contacts the blood center, we will search the Bio-Linked database to see if anyone matches the need. If an individual is a fit, we will contact that person and ask if he or she is interested in participating.

WILL I EVERY BE PRESSURED TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH?

Absolutely not! If your history matches you match a researcher's need, one of our medical staff will con-tact you. If you have any interest in participating, we will explain what the researcher needs and how that may affect you. The choice to move for-ward is completely yours. Unless you agree, the researcher will never know your identity

WILL I EVER BE PAID?

Possibly, but each research project is different. Some, but not all, do have budgets for paying participants.

WHY IS MY BLOOD CENTER DOING THIS?

To expand our life-saving mission! There are more than16,000 clinical studies occurring at any one time in the United States. These studies could provide cures or treatments for diseases that affect our friends and neighbors. This progress is often delayed many years because scientists cannot locate people to participate in their research. By helping researchers locate willing people with specific conditions, we can do our part in bringing new medicines to people as soon as possible.

HOW TO ENROLL:

Using your donation number or you donor identification number printed on the post-donation Instruction sheet, go to connect2.bio-linked.org. If you donated at a center location, you may also receive an email containing a linked to the Bio-Sharing website.