

Research Glossary - A short list

Use the plain language definition instead of using the term.

Some terms can be used as long as they are defined. If you have to use the term, include a plain language definition the first time you use the term.

| Hard word | Plain Language options |
|--|--|
| Adverse | harmful; bad |
| Beneficial | helpful; good |
| Benefit (<i>Noun</i>) | good effect; advantage |
| Benefit (<i>Verb</i>) | help; be useful to |
| Device (<i>Noun</i>) | tool; machine; piece of equipment |
| Device (<i>Verb</i>) | way; plan; method |
| Double-Blind | study where neither you or those who are doing the study know which [<i>drug</i>] you are going to get. |
| Drug | <i>(used only when drug is not commercially available)</i> |
| E.G.; Etc. | for example; and so forth |
| Empirical Evidence | proof |
| Examination | exam; to check; to look at |
| Examine | look at; study |
| Idiopathic | we don't know what causes it |
| Investigational | the study [<i>XXX</i>] is not approved by Health Canada and is still being tested in different research studies. |
| Investigational Device | study device; study product |
| Investigational Drug | study drug; study product <i>(when not commercially available for the specific condition)</i> |
| Investigational Drug Involving Placebo | study drug or placebo; study product; study substance |

| Hard word | Plain Language options |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Investigational Medicine | study medicine <i>(when commercially available for use in that particular condition)</i> |
| Investigational Procedure | study procedure; study process; study test; study treatment |
| Investigational Team; Researchers | study staff; the people doing the study |
| Medication | medicine <i>(used only when medication is already commercially available)</i> |
| Monitor | check on; keep track of; watch carefully |
| Patient | <i>use only when referring to a person prior to them taking part in the study</i> |
| Personal Information | Personal information includes your name, initials, your address and phone number, your blood type, your age, |
| Placebo | A <i>[substance/pill/liquid]</i> that does not have any study drug or other medicine in it. It is a compound usually make of sugar and water. It will not hurt you. |
| Principal Investigator | study doctor; the person leading the study; the person who is in charge of this study |
| Principal Investigator | study doctor; study leader; the main person leading the study |
| Protocol | the plan of the study; the way the study is going to be done |
| Questionnaire | survey; series of questions; set of questions; set of written questions |
| Random Sample | a group of people chosen by chance, like ... |
| Random(Ly) | by chance |

| Hard word | Plain Language options |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Randomized/Randomization | <p>assigned to a study group by chance, like picking a name or number from a hat that has many names or numbers in it [More than 2 groups]</p> <p>...like flipping a coin [2 groups] where you have an even chance of being in one group or the other</p> |
| Research Trial; Investigation | research study; study |
| Retrospective Study | a study to look back at [<i>things, events, illnesses, experiences</i>] that have already happened to see... |
| Subject; Participant; | person who takes part; people taking part in the study |
| Therapy | <p>treatment</p> <p>study treatment (<i>if investigational use</i>)</p> |
| Validate | confirm; approve |
| Variable | a factor; changes over time |