Lupus Clinical Trials:
Why Black Participation Matters

Barbershops have always been at the heart of our community.
Let's use that power to improve our health.

NATIONAL MINORITY QUALITY FORUM · LIFT EVERY VOICE PATIENT NETWORK

Visit Beyond-Lupus.org for more resources

2–3×
BLACK WOMEN MORE LIKELY TO GET LUPUS

More Severe
SYMPTOMS IN BLACK PATIENTS

Under-represented
IN CLINICAL RESEARCH

You Matter
YOUR PARTICIPATION DRIVES CHANGE

STRAIGHT FROM THE CHAIR · REAL TALK. REAL HEALTH.

WHY BLACK PARTICIPATION MATTERS

Lupus hits our communities harder — but Black patients have historically been left out of the research that shapes treatment. When we show up for clinical trials, we make sure the science works for *us*. New medicines, better care, real solutions — they only happen when our voices are in the room.

> **Your participation helps ensure future treatments reflect the experiences of the people most affected by this disease.**

WHAT IS A CLINICAL TRIAL?

A clinical trial is a research study that tests new lupus treatments, medications, or ways to manage symptoms — including better tools for earlier diagnosis. Trials are how medical breakthroughs happen, and diverse participation makes the science stronger for everyone.

YOUR RIGHTS. YOUR CALL.

Skepticism about medical research is real and valid. Know your rights:

- Participation is 100% voluntary
- You can walk away at any time
- Ask questions before and during
- Your health is monitored throughout
- No pressure — ever

WHAT PARTICIPATION LOOKS LIKE

1. **Find a Study**
   You and your doctor review studies to find one that matches your health history and eligibility.
2. **Learn the Details**
   Researchers walk you through the purpose, risks, benefits, and your rights — before you commit to anything.
3. **Join If You Choose**
   You may receive a new treatment, standard care, or a comparison. The team monitors your health throughout.
4. **Regular Check-Ins**
   Scheduled visits and follow-ups help researchers track results and keep you safe throughout the study.

WHY REPRESENTATION IN RESEARCH MATTERS

When trials include people from diverse backgrounds, the science gets better for all of us. More representation means research that actually reflects how lupus affects Black patients — leading to treatments that truly work for our communities

- More effective lupus treatments
- Better insight into how lupus affects us
- Better care for future generations

Ready to Learn More?

Speak with your doctor or visit our lupus clinical trial education toolkit to find lupus research opportunities near you. Your participation can make a difference for generations to come.

Find a Trial

This resource is for educational purposes only. Consult your healthcare provider before making any medical decisions. · © 2026 National Minority Quality Forum · Lift Every Voice Patient Network