The Clinical Trial Volunteer's Bill of Rights

Any volunteer who gives his or her consent to participate in a clinical trial or who is asked to give his or her consent on behalf of another has the following rights:

- To be told the purpose of the clinical trial
- To be told all the risks, side effects or discomforts that might be reasonably expected
- To be told of any benefits that can be reasonably expected
- To be told what will happen in the study and whether any procedures, drugs or devices are different than those that are used as standard medical treatment
- To be told about options available and how they may be better or worse than being in a clinical trial
- To be allowed to ask any questions about the trial before giving consent and at any time during the course of the study
- To be allowed ample time, without pressure, to decide whether to consent or not to consent to participate
- To refuse to participate, for any reason, before and after the trial has started
- To receive a signed and dated copy of the informed consent form
- To be told of any medical treatments available if complications occur during the trial

Source: Getz, K., & Borfitz, D. (2002). Informed Consent. Boston, MA: Thomson CenterWatch