

What does it mean to “not discriminate” in research? And what are your rights to not be discriminated against?

In order to conduct research and advance medical and health-related knowledge, Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute investigators sometimes design studies that look at groups of individuals based on specific *inclusion and exclusion criteria*. Researchers include or exclude participants from research studies based on the combination of many different criteria in order to answer scientific questions. Those criteria could include health conditions, like high blood pressure, pregnancy, or depression, or characteristics like age, ancestry/race, and sex/gender. Applying inclusion and exclusion criteria allows researchers to discover things about different kinds of conditions and different groups of people.

At the same time, federal law prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and sex in health programs and activities. In the research setting, such nondiscrimination protections ensure that participants do not experience mistreatment, and that researchers make modifications to ensure meaningful access and effective communication occurs. What does this mean?

- 1) Kaiser Permanente does not target or exclude certain groups when participants’ health or safety, the scientific study design, or the research purpose does not justify doing so.
- 2) Kaiser Permanente provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us. For example, we use qualified sign language interpreters and provide written information in alternative formats (such as large print, audio, and accessible electronic formats).
- 3) Kaiser Permanente provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English. We use qualified interpreters and provide information written in other languages.
- 4) Kaiser Permanente provides a Civil Rights Coordinator who is available to help should:
 - You need access to any of the free aids and services that Kaiser Permanente provides,
 - You think you have been discriminated against, and/or
 - You want to file a grievance, which you can do in person, by mail, fax, or email.
(You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Ave SW, Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, DC 20201, 1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.)

You can reach Kaiser Permanente’s Civil Rights Coordinator at Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington Headquarters Headquarters, 320 Westlake Ave. N., Suite 100, GHQ-E2N, Seattle, WA 98109, 206-448-5819, 206-877-0645 (Fax), complianceoffice@kp.org.

It is important to understand that inclusion/exclusion criteria applied within a research study is different from prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and sex. Researchers use inclusion/exclusion criteria for a number of valid, and legal, reasons: to protect participants’ health and/or safety, inform the scientific study design, and/or further the research purpose.

LANGUAGE ACCESS SERVICES

English: ATTENTION: If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call 1-888-901-4636 (TTY: 1-800-833-6388 or 711).

Español (Spanish): ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-888-901-4636 (TTY: 1-800-833-6388 / 711).

中文 (Chinese) : 注意 : 如果您使用繁體中文, 您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-888-901-4636 (TTY : 1-800-833-6388 / 711) 。

Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese): CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-888-901-4636 (TTY : 1-800-833-6388 / 711).

한국어(Korean): 주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1-888-901-4636 (TTY: 1-800-833-6388 / 711) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

Русский (Russian): ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 1-888-901-4636 (телетайп: 1-800-833-6388 / 711).

Filipino (Tagalog): PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa 1-888-901-4636 (TTY: 1-800-833-6388 / 711).

Українська (Ukrainian): УВАГА! Якщо ви розмовляєте українською мовою, ви можете звернутися до безкоштовної служби мовної підтримки. Телефонуйте за номером 1-888-901-4636 (телетайп: 1-800-833-6388 / 711).

ភាសាខ្មែរ (Khmer): ប្រយ័ត្ន: បើសិនអ្នកនិយាយខ្មែរ, សេចក្តីជំនួយផ្នែក យេមីនភីតល គឺចូលសំបុត្រអ្នក។ ចូរទូរស័ព្ទ 1-888-901-4636 (TTY: 1-800-833-6388 / 711)។

日本語(Japanese): 注意事項 : 日本語を話される場合、無料の言語支援をご利用いただけます。1-888-901-4636 (TTY:1-800-833-6388 / 711) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

አማርኛ (Amharic): ማሳሰቢያ: የሚናገሩት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያግዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚከተለው ቁጥር ይደውሉ 1-888-901-4636 (መስማት ለተሳናቸው: 1-800-833-6388 / 711)።

Oromiffa (Oromo): XIYYEEFFANNA: Afaan dubbattu Oroomiffa, tajaajila gargaarsa afaanii, kanfaltiidhaan ala, ni argama. Bilbilaa 1-888-901-4636 (TTY: 1-800-833-6388 / 711).

العربية (Arabic): لديكم حق الحصول على مساعدة ومعلومات في ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم 1-888-901-4636 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: 1-800-833-6388 / 711).

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi) ਧਿਆਨ ਦਿਓ: ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੋਲਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਸੇਵਾ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਲਈ ਮੁਫਤ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ। 1-888-901-4636 (TTY: 1-800-833-6388 / 711) 'ਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ।

Deutsch (German): ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1-888-901-4636 (TTY: 1-800-833-6388 / 711).

ພາສາລາວ (Lao): ໂປດຊາບ: ຖ້າວ່າ ທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ, ໂດຍບໍ່ເສັງຄ່າ, ແມ່ນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທລ 1-888-901-4636 (TTY: 1-800-833-6388 / 711).