

Protocol

In medicine, a protocol is a predefined set of [steps](#) and [guidelines](#) for conducting medical [procedures](#), [treatments](#), or [clinical trials](#). It ensures [consistency](#), [accuracy](#), and ethical standards in [healthcare](#) practices.

The [study protocol](#) is a document outlining the design of a study, describing the [objectives](#), [methodology](#) and overall organization of the [research](#) to be carried out forming a [template](#) and guide to the research process as a whole.

[Clinical protocol](#), has a more specific meaning. It describes a [method](#) to be used in a [clinical trial](#) (e.g. of a drug or medical treatment) or a medical [research](#) study.

A set of rules is followed by providers such as EMTs or nurses. Often considered to be stricter than a [guideline](#), and to carry more weight with the law, but there is no hard evidence to support this view and the terms are usually used interchangeably.

Examples

see [Stupp protocol](#).

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Last update: **2025/06/14 09:15**

