You will first be asked some questions over the phone to make sure that the study you are interested in is right for your situation. For some studies a trained interviewer will then come to your home at a time that is convenient for you. The interviewer will first explain the study, review the benefits and any minimal risks of participation, and ask you to sign an Informed Consent form that describes the study procedures and acknowledges your willingness to participate. You also will have an opportunity to ask any questions and decide whether you want to participate. If so, the interviewer will conduct the first interview, and will then review with you the next steps of your participation, depending on what study you are participating in.

**Am I protected as a study participant?**

All research studies must be approved and continuously monitored by an Institutional Review Board (IRB), a legal entity of a sponsoring institution. The IRB ensures that you are protected from risks that may be too great, that your privacy is protected and that you are completely informed about the study and have chosen freely to participate.

In addition, if you participate in research projects at CARAH, your confidentiality will be protected. All information we receive is stored in locked cabinets that is only accessible by members of the project team. Your name will never be identifiable on any of the information you provide.

**Did You Know?**

Caring for someone with dementia is associated with a higher level of stress than caring for someone with functional impairment from another type of chronic illness.