

FACTS: CLINICAL TRIALS

Clinical trials evaluate the safety and effectiveness of new treatments. Sometimes a trial will be testing the combination of a drug that has already been approved, in combination with an experimental treatment.



In oncology (cancer) trials, there are no "sugar pills" as a placebo. If you are in the group that is not receiving the experimental drug, you will receive the "standard of care".

ClinicalTrials.gov currently lists 347,165 studies with locations in all 50 States and in 216 countries.

Less than 5% of adults with cancer participate in a clinical trial.

Cancer trials on average take 3.2 years to reach completion, far longer than non-cancer trials, which take 1.8 years to complete.

Knowing your biomarker type can help gain a better understanding of the prognosis of your cancer diagnosis and help predict how your cancer may or may not respond to a particular treatment. For more information on biomarkers, visit www.knowyourbiomarker.org.

SPREAD THE WORD! WE NEED MORE PATIENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN CLINICAL TRIALS.

Clinical trials are often incorrectly seen as a "last-ditch option" for treatment. In fact, it is possible that a patient may not be eligible for a clinical trial if they've already had multiple types of treatment.

Patients and Doctors are not able to choose if they will receive the experimental treatment that is being tested in the trial. While this may discourage some patients from participating, it is important to be able to test the experimental drug against established results. If no one participated in clinical trials, new treatments would take even longer to be approved for use.



CLINICAL TRIALS PHASES + GOALS

PHASE	GOAL	SIZE
PHASE I:	Test safety and side effects	25 or fewer participants
	Test delivery method (oral, vein, etc.)	
PHASE II:	Test how the cancer responds to treatment	100 or fewer participants
	Test side effects	
PHASE III:	Test how the drug performs in comparison to standard treatment (other FDA approved drug currently in use)	100 to several thousand participants
PHASE IV:	Test safety over time in FDA approved drugs	Thousands of participants
	May also look at the quality of life or other aspects of treatment	

Visit www.globalcca.org/clinical-trials for more information, including printable materials to bring to your health care team and links to resources.

While navigating a clinical trial can be confusing, the GCCA has compiled resources to help you and your health care team determine if a clinical trial is right for you. Visit www.globalcca.org/clinical-trials for more information, including:

- Links to online clinical trial databases, including colorectal cancer-specific trials
- Printable materials to bring to your healthcare team to use as a discussion guide
- List of non-profits and their clinical trial resources and how to access the programs