

The Case Comprehensive Cancer Center, whose member institutions include Case Western Reserve University, University Hospitals and Cleveland Clinic, is one of only 41 National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers in the nation.



Is a Cancer Clinical Trial Right for You? The Choice Is Yours.

Learn more about cancer clinical trials

UH Seidman Cancer Center:

Call: 1.800.641.2422

Visit: uhhospitals.org/seidman/research/clinical-trials

Cleveland Clinic:

Call: 1.866.223.8100

Visit: my.clevelandclinic.org/cancer/clinical-trials-research

National Cancer Institute:

Call: 1.800.4.CANCER (1.800.422.6237)

Visit: cancer.gov

This brochure was approved by the Community Advisory Board
of the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center.



CASE
COMPREHENSIVE
CANCER CENTER



A Comprehensive Cancer
Center Designated by the
National Cancer Institute



What is a cancer clinical trial?

Cancer clinical trials are research studies that involve people. They may also be called “studies.” Cancer clinical trials are done to see if new drugs, devices or treatments are safe and effective for people to use.

Why are cancer clinical trials important?

Cancer clinical trials can help prevent, find and treat cancer. They can also help control symptoms of cancer or side effects from treatment.

Many of the cancer treatments used today came from past clinical trials such as:

- A vaccine that prevents cervical cancer.
- A breast cancer drug that increases the cure rate.
- New drugs that help men with advanced prostate cancer live longer.
- A new and powerful treatment for nausea.

Did you know that in Ohio, African Americans are more likely to have cancer or die from cancer than white men and women?

In Cuyahoga County:

- African American men are 30% more likely to die from cancer than white men.
- African American women are 22% more likely to die from cancer than white women.

Why should African Americans think about joining a cancer clinical trial?

It's important that people of all backgrounds take part in cancer clinical trials, so the results will be useful to all people. Not enough is known about how certain drugs work in people of different races or genders. This is because in the past, most drug testing was done on white men.

How are African Americans protected in cancer clinical trials?

There are strict federal laws that protect people from harm. Some African Americans remember past abuses like the Tuskegee Experiment in which syphilis treatment was withheld from African American men for many years. Something like that could not happen today.



*Our Cancer Center's team
of experts protects patients'
safety and rights.*

Why should you join a cancer clinical trial?

By joining a cancer clinical trial, you can get a new drug or treatment that shows promise but which is still being tested. If a new drug or treatment you are getting is working, you may be among the first to benefit. You also have the chance to help others and improve cancer treatment.

Do cancer clinical trials have risks?

The risks depend on the drug or treatment being studied. Your doctor will explain all of the known risks and will closely watch you for side effects.

Keep in mind:

- The new drug or treatment may not be better than existing drugs and treatments.
- The new treatment may or may not help you.
- Drugs that treat cancer can also harm healthy body tissues.
- It is not always known what side effects to expect.
- New treatments may have unknown risks which could be short or long lasting.

What should you do before joining a cancer clinical trial?

- Talk with your doctor about all of your treatment options.
- Find out what is involved in the trial. Ask about:
 - Treatment
 - Tests
 - Risks and benefits
 - How the trial could affect your daily life
 - Extra costs

Discuss the trial with the study team and ask questions. Make sure you understand the information you read and hear. Ask the study team to explain things if you are not sure what they mean. Talk about the trial with your family and friends.