



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

## What are cancer clinical trials?

Clinical Trials are research studies that involve people. These clinical studies help doctors to:

- find new ways to treat cancer
- manage symptoms of cancer and side effects of treatments
- find better ways to prevent cancer and catch it earlier.

## Why should African Americans participate in clinical trials?

Today, only a small percentage of minorities are in clinical trials. For many years clinical trials were performed on only white men. Large groups such as African Americans, women, and other minorities were left out. Sometimes, cancer treatments can affect racial and ethnic groups differently. By joining a clinical trial, you can help future generations of African Americans!

## Are clinical trials safe?

Each clinical trial is thoroughly reviewed and checked by the hospital's Institutional Review Board and research staff. These teams make sure that patients understand the study's purpose and risks. Today, federal laws are in place to protect you from being taken advantage of through medical research.

## Are clinical trials free?

The costs of treatments, testing and doctor visits are usually covered by insurance. Talk to your doctor and members of the research team about any out-of-pocket costs you may have. We have financial counselors and social workers that can help with you with costs of cancer treatments.

## How can I get involved in a clinical trial?

Talk to your doctor or nurse and ask to speak to a member of the research study team to see if there is a clinical trial that is right for you. Make sure you understand the information that you see or hear. Talk with your loved ones and anyone who helps you make decisions. You can call family and friends while seeing your doctor so they can ask questions.

## How can I get more information about clinical trials?

Talk to your doctor or nurse.

CONTACT THE

### Clinical Research Office

[case.edu/cancer/patientscommunity/clinical-trials](http://case.edu/cancer/patientscommunity/clinical-trials)

216-368-3679

CONTACT THE

### National Cancer Institute

[ccr.cancer.gov/clinical-trials](http://ccr.cancer.gov/clinical-trials)

1-800-422-6237

CONTACT THE

### American Cancer Society

[www.cancer.org/clinicaltrials](http://www.cancer.org/clinicaltrials)

1-800-227-2345

## What is the Case Comprehensive Cancer Center?

The Case Comprehensive Cancer Center is a partnership with Case Western Reserve School of Medicine, Cleveland Clinic and University Hospitals. **OUR MISSION IS SIMPLE:** To use scientific discoveries in cancer to improve lives in our community and beyond.



## THINGS TO REMEMBER when considering a clinical trial

Deciding to participate in a clinical trial is a personal decision. Here are some things to keep in mind as you weigh your options.

### SAFE

Protections are in place to ensure you feel safe every step of the way.

### TREATMENT OPTIONS

A clinical trial may be the best treatment option for you.

### CONTINUITY OF CARE

You may be able to keep your doctor when you join a clinical trial.

### SIDE EFFECT MONITORING

The research team is an extra layer of help for you when you are on a clinical trial. They will monitor you closely for side effects.

### VOLUNTARY

If you decide to participate in a trial, you can change your mind at any time.

### WAY TO HELP OTHERS

The knowledge gained from a clinical trial can help others now and future generations.

## THE DECISION IS YOURS

Gather information, ask questions, talk with your healthcare provider and discuss with people you trust.

