**Clinical Trials: What Patient Advocates Want You to Know**

Clinical trials are not right or practical for every patient. PAF encourages anyone who is interested to explore new ways to detect diseases and its advances in cancer and other diseases. While you don’t need your doctor’s permission to consider or engage in a trial, you will want to keep those questions in mind when you sort through the treatment and care options available. Being informed is an important part of being a patient advocate.

**Clinical Trials: Are Definitely Worth a Second Look for Any Patient**

In addition to making the decisions to participate in a trial based on the medical necessity of your care, patients must also consider informed consent, that is, the requirement of participation in a trial fit for their lifestyle. How many treatment and care options exist in your specific situation, including the realistic and emotional challenges, and it is important to learn as much as you can beforehand to make your time and their time at a doctor’s office or hospital environment.

Additionally, trials can require more from your family and close contacts, including longer time commitments, reimbursement, treatment or doctor visits. Asking questions will help you understand what to expect.

The Practical Side of Trial Participation

In addition to making the decisions to participate in a trial based on the medical necessity of your care, patients must also consider informed consent, that is, the requirement of participation in a trial fit for their lifestyle. How many treatment and care options exist in your specific situation, including the realistic and emotional challenges, and it is important to learn as much as you can beforehand to make your time and their time at a doctor’s office or hospital environment.

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What Is the Purpose of a Clinical Trial?

Clinical trials are systematic research activities in which humans are exposed to new interventions. They are designed to test the benefits and risks of specific medical treatments or interventions to prevent, treat, or monitor disease. Including such as a new drug or device (e.g., diet).

Clinical trial are at the foundation of medical advancements against all types of diseases, including breast cancer and lung cancer. They are essential in providing new treatments and therapies that can improve the quality of life and increase survival rates.

The ultimate goal of clinical trials is to determine if the new treatment, drug or program being studied is safe and effective or superior to the current treatment being offered today.

What Does Participation Mean Exactly? Is it Right For You?

Your participation in a clinical trial is an important decision. While you may have a lot of questions, you are not alone. Clinical trials are reviewed and regulated by Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). So be assured that your safety is protected.

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One Size Doesn’t Always Fit All

We have found for a long time that this phrase isn’t always true when it comes to disease and medical issues. Your condition is unique, and there isn’t a one-size-fits-all approach to disease. What’s right for one person may not be right for another.

The Decisions is Yours to Make

Choosing the standard treatment would you otherwise receive is usually an option. You can choose to participate in a clinical trial, or you can choose to receive standard treatment. The Decisions is yours to make.

Understanding the Differences in Study Phases

There are 5 different clinical trial research is structured and phases. Each phase is designed to fine-tune the answers to separate questions. The knowledge gained by each study is used to further explore and a trial may be initiated that will focus on larger populations after approval.

Phase 1: Initial Testing

The first phase of a clinical trial involves a small group of people - typically 20 to 100 volunteers. This phase is designed to determine the effectiveness and possible side effects of a drug or procedure in healthy volunteers. If the drug or procedure proves effective in Phase 1, then it moves on to the next phase.

Phase 2: Further Testing

During the second phase of a clinical trial, the drug or procedure is given to a larger group of people - typically 100 to 300 volunteers. This phase is designed to further test the effectiveness and side effects of the drug or procedure in a larger group of people. The goal of this phase is to determine the optimal dose and schedule of the drug or procedure.

Phase 3: Large Scale Testing

During the third phase of a clinical trial, the drug or procedure is given to an even larger group of people - typically thousands of volunteers. This phase is designed to determine the effectiveness and side effects of the drug or procedure in a real-world setting. The goal of this phase is to determine the safety and effectiveness of the drug or procedure in a diverse population of patients.

Phase 4: Post-Market Study

After a drug or procedure has been approved by the FDA, it enters the phase 4 of clinical trial, known as post-marketing surveillance. This phase is designed to determine the long-term safety and effectiveness of the drug or procedure.

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Learning To Be Your Own Best Advocate

Is it your doctor’s advice? Or is it the clinical trial discussion your doctor didn’t have time to discuss? It’s important to be your own health advocate. You have the right to know all aspects of your care and to make informed decisions about your health.

Nurses & Doctors

If you are interested in a clinical trial, talk to your doctor. They may be able to provide you with information about clinical trials available in your area, or they may be able to refer you to a clinical trial coordinator.

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What Is the Purpose of a Clinical Trial?

Clinical trials are an essential part of the medical research process that help determine the benefits and risks of specific medical treatments or interventions to treat, prevent or manage disease, including those such as diet or change in behavior (e.g., diet).

Clinical trials are at the forefront of medical advancements against all types of diseases, including heart and stroke, hematologic and immunologic cancer, hepatitis, HIV/AIDS and many other critical diseases. They can also help shape the future of medicine by determining which therapies are effective to replace or add to the current treatment being offered today.

Understanding the Differences in Study Phases

There are four key clinical research phases and each is designed to fine-tune the answers to the research question to test the benefits and risks of specific medical treatments or interventions.

Phase 1

Early clinical trials are done to test a new drug or treatment, or a new way of using an existing drug or treatment, in a limited number of people. The goal is to see how the drug or treatment should be given and monitored, and to gain information about its safety.

Phase 2

A more limited group of people, usually a few dozen, will receive the drug or treatment. This phase can also provide initial information about how well the drug or treatment works.

Phase 3

The new treatment is given to a very large number of people to see how well it works compared to other measures (a placebo, other standard treatment, or both) for the specific disease. The new drug or treatment is given in different ways to different groups of people (ages, ethnicities and genders), this is called a Phase 3b trial. This phase can last from one to three years or more.

Phase 4

This type of trial is designed to follow up and gain additional information about the new treatment. The product or procedure will benefit the largest number of patients.

Finding a Clinical Trial

Clinical trials are not just for patients on the cutting edge of medical research. For many patients and family members, finding a clinical trial can provide hope that treatment options are available when standard treatment is not.

The Decisions in Yours to Make

Why patients ultimately decide to participate in a clinical trial is a deeply personal and individualized decision we make during our life.

When participating in a clinical trial, it is ok to talk to others and choose what is best for you. Discuss options with your oncologist, your family and close friends. This might also be a good time to get a second opinion from a new doctor that can provide a new perspective. Discuss the option of participating in a clinical trial with your doctor.

Understanding the Differences in Study Phases

The four key clinical research phases each focus on delivering new or improved treatment options for cancer. Every standard treatment and medicine available today was proven to be effective in a clinical trial.

Clinical trials are carefully designed science-driven studies that test the benefits and risks of specific medical treatments or interventions. Researchers are constantly learning that there are new ways to treat cancer. New drugs, new methods of delivering existing drugs, new ways of diagnosing the disease and how we think of the disease are all changing.

Clinical trials help families and patients learn more about the disease and its treatment. Learning what trials are available and understanding the different phases can help you decide if participating in a clinical trial makes sense for you.

You might be curious about learning more about clinical trials to explore whether volunteering to participate makes sense for you. Each trial is designed and maintained to ensure patient safety and is usually a step closer to treating or curing a disease. However every family and patient will have a different perspective on what volunteer participation means to them.

Some patients find this reassuring while others find it a concern. So it is important to weigh each as it relates to your situation.

Members of the healthcare community can help you learn more about clinical trials. Your oncologist, patient advocates, healthcare workers and social service professionals work closely with you. Your family members can narrow the list from home, and discuss possible options with you. Your family and the healthcare team can also help you decide which clinical trials might be best for you.

Clinical trials can be challenging. To ensure you are fully informed beforehand, your doctor must carefully explain the risks and benefits, expected outcomes, possible side effects, how each stage in the trial will be conducted and the trial's overall duration.

In order to find a clinical trial for treatment you should be ready with some medical information, including your current cancer stage, type, and location, plus any additional information that your doctor has already gathered about your cancer diagnosis. In most cases you can begin this process by asking your oncologist these questions:

• How many clinical trials are there for my specific type of cancer or condition?
• What are the benefits and potential side effects of the clinical trials available for my condition?
• Which clinical trials are the most promising and why?
• Is there any potential for me to be among the first to benefit from a new treatment being studied in a trial?
• What are the expected benefits, potential side effects and expected timeline for each phase of a clinical trial I might consider participating in?

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What Does Participation Mean Exactly? Is it Right For You?

You may be curious about learning more about clinical trials to explore whether volunteering to participate makes sense for you. Each trial is designed and conducted to ensure patient safety in order to stop the trial if it is not safe, or to stop participation in the future if it is not helpful. While some people may consider a specific opportunity beneficial, others consider the same offers concern, so it is important to weigh each as it relates to your situation.

- Volunteer to Phase III - Trials: Volunteer to Phase III clinical trials of new or modified treatments for patients with the same disease state, but note that these studies do not contain a placebo group or add to the current treatment being offered today. These interventions to prevent, treat or monitor disease, including items such as a new drug or behavior change (e.g., diet).
- Phase IV: This is a type of trial that studies the effectiveness of a drug after approval. The purpose is to gather more information on larger and more diverse populations, and to look for the best way to give the treatment to patients. Phase IV studies continue for many years after approval, to look for additional information on larger and more diverse disease populations and demographics.
- Understanding the Differences in Study Phases

Why patients ultimately decide to participate in a clinical trial varies for each person, and the decisions are made after much deliberation and debate. When participating in a trial, there may be other study specific factors, including the medication, treatment plans, or procedures that are being tested. The study sponsor pays for these services, and the cost of your treatment is paid for by the insurance and health plan you have. While participating in a clinical trial, you may be curious about learning more about clinical trials to explore whether volunteering to participate makes sense for you. Each trial is designed and conducted to ensure patient safety in order to stop the trial if it is not safe, or to stop participation in the future if it is not helpful. While some people may consider a specific opportunity beneficial, others consider the same offers concern, so it is important to weigh each as it relates to your situation.

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What Is the Purpose of a Clinical Trial?

In order to find a clinical trial to treat your condition, you should be ready with some medical information, including your current cancer stage, type, your personal health history, any other conditions you might have, your cancer diagnosis such as molecular biomarkers or genetic characteristics, and other medical conditions you also have. For new treatment trials, you may need information from your family history or other traits.

Your doctor can also help identify any local or regional options. Clinical trials are conducted in a variety of settings including community clinics, doctor offices, as well as larger medical centers. Look around and ask your physician or local oncologists about the types of trials that make that in difference for your situation and location.

Two new approaches to recruiting patients for trials have emerged as a result of this movement. The first is a trial by cancer treatment sites. The second is a trial by cancer center, which is the difference that can make a difference for your situation and location.

Clinical trials are designed to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of a new treatment or intervention. They are structured to provide a scientific basis for the safety and efficacy of a new treatment or intervention and to look for the best way to give the treatment to patients. Phase IV studies continue for many years after approval, to look for additional information on larger and more diverse disease populations and demographics.

Learning To Be Your Own Best Advocate

Just like in your doctor’s office, each clinical trial must meet a minimum set of standards and protocols to prove its safety. In addition, they must be transparent and not hide information you may want to know. To make sure that your medical information is accurate and up to date, you may be asked to provide information about your medical history and treatment. This information is used to make informed consent decisions, and it is used to make important decisions about your health and well-being. It is also used to make informed decisions about your health and well-being. To make informed decisions about your health and well-being.

The Decisions is Yours to Make

Finding A Trial Doesn’t Have to Be An Individual Task

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Clinical Trials: Are Definitely Worth a Second Look for Any Patient

Patients help patients cope with the unique problems of their diseases. In addition to keeping patients informed, patient advocates can help patients understand the potential benefits of clinical trials and identify actions that help us prevent disease, improve the quality of life or reduce side effects of today's treatment and many other advances.

The Practical Side of Trial Participation

In addition to making the decisions to participate in a clinical trial based on the medical reasons of your care, patients must also determine if the requirements of participating in the trial fit in their lifestyle. While every treatment and medical care option presents its own practical, logistical and emotional challenges, it is important to learn as much as you can beforehand. In this show, we'll discuss how to decide your path without complex referrals.

Before you decide to take your enrollment into a study, the researchers will provide you with a list of the responsibilities you are expected to fulfill to ensure the trial results are reported the same way everyone else received that clinical trial. 

Some of the biggest challenges patients report when it comes to participating in treatment trials relate to the financial cost. Expenses may come from affecting the insurance plan's out-of-pocket costs, covering any trial-related care that is not covered by insurance. Additionally, you make that the location of the study is from one city or state, or spending longer time away from home or work, food and other supplies.

Additionally, some of your family members may lose complimentary techniques. Some studies also include additional things that added alongside modern medicine to improve our quality of life or reduce side effects of today's treatment and many other advances.

The Family and Medical Leave Act may defer that it's not just for treatment. Forget That It's Not Just for Treatment

When meeting with patients, even when not the guidelines, in addition to keeping the open communication of clinical trials frequently occur in a possible solution, that is not surprising to many of us who have long participated in the research studies. Ask medical professionals who are participating in these clinical trials. 

The Family and Medical Leave Act may defer that it's not just for treatment. Remember the National Patient Advocate Foundation. Clinical Trials: Are Definitely Worth A Second Look for Any Patient. Clinical Trials are not right or fair for every patient. Patient advocates help patients cope with the unique problems of their diseases. In addition to keeping patients informed, patient advocates can help patients understand the potential benefits of clinical trials and identify actions that help us prevent disease, improve the quality of life or reduce side effects of today's treatment and many other advances.

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**Clinical Trials Are Definitely Worth a Second Look For Any Patient**

When working with patients, oncologists are often faced with the dilemma of whether clinical trials frequently open up new possibilities for patients. For example, the use of an experimental treatment in advance of standard treatment may offer a new option for patients who are not eligible for other therapies.

**Trials Are Not Just For Treatment**

Some people only think of clinical trials for last resort cancer treatment, but that’s not the case. There are many treatment trials guardrails those who have been brought up short. There are many treatment trials that are testing other aspects of our healthcare. Only 16% of cancer patients have had the chance to participate in a clinical trial, yet 90% of cancer patients believe that clinical trials are important. Therefore, the importance of clinical trials should be emphasized.

**Basics to Help You Decide if a Clinical Trial Is Right for You**

For example, researchers may be looking to explore new ways to detect diseases at an earlier stage or to learn more about the mechanisms of cancer. Clinical trials can be classified into different types, including:

- **Prevention trials**
- **Diagnosis trials**
- **Quality-of-Life trials**
- **Treatment trials**

Not only are many treatment trials geared towards those who have been brought up short. There are many treatment trials that are testing other aspects of our healthcare.

**Quality-of-Life trials**

These trials focus on improving the quality of life for patients, including addressing ways to reduce or eliminate side effects of treatment, improving comfort, and ensuring patients are able to continue their daily activities.

**Always check with your insurance company and your health care provider before signing up for a clinical trial.**

**ClinicalTrials.gov**

www.clinicaltrials.gov

**EmergingMed Clinical Trial Navigation**

www.emergingmed.com/

**Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Foundation**

www.triplenegativebreastcancerfoundation.org

**BreastCancerTrials.org**

clinical_trials

**Metastatic Trial Search**

www.clinicaltrials.gov

**CenterWatch**

www.centerwatch.com/cfclinicaltrials.html

**ClinicalTrialsFoundation.org**

www.clinical_trials.org

**PatientAdvocate.org** (800) 532-5274

**Patient Advocate Foundation**

www.patientadvocate.org

- **What are my options for taking part in a clinical trial?**
- **What are the eligibility requirements?**
- **What does the trial entail?**
- **How will I be informed of my trial results?**
- **Who is in charge of my care? Will I be able to see my own doctor or a doctor in my network?**
- **How often will I need to visit a physician’s office?**
- **What are the likely side effects from participation? Will these possible side effects affect my daily life?**
- **Are there treatments to manage any side effects?**
- **Will I need to be a specific facility to receive the care? If so, how often and for how long?**
- **What costs will my insurance cover? What costs are paid by the trial, including transportation, parking, tolls, childcare, food or other supplies?**
- **What are the research results so far for patients like me?**
- **Who will be in charge of my care? Will I be able to see my own doctor or a doctor in my network?**
- **What is the trial studying and how does this relate to me?**
- **What are my options for taking part in a clinical trial?**

**Clinical Trials Are Definitely Worth a Second Look For Any Patient**

Trials not only help patients and their families and caregivers, but they also work to ensure affordable access to prescribed treatment and medication at part of their healthcare. When working with patients, oncologists are often faced with the dilemma of whether clinical trials frequently open up new possibilities for patients. For example, the use of an experimental treatment in advance of standard treatment may offer a new option for patients who are not eligible for other therapies.

For example, researchers may be looking to explore new ways to detect diseases at an earlier stage or to learn more about the mechanisms of cancer. Clinical trials can be classified into different types, including:

- **Prevention trials**
- **Diagnosis trials**
- **Quality-of-Life trials**
- **Treatment trials**

Not only are many treatment trials geared towards those who have been brought up short. There are many treatment trials that are testing other aspects of our healthcare. Only 16% of cancer patients have had the chance to participate in a clinical trial, yet 90% of cancer patients believe that clinical trials are important. Therefore, the importance of clinical trials should be emphasized.

**Basics to Help You Decide if a Clinical Trial Is Right for You**

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**Trials Are Not Just For Treatment**

Some people only think of clinical trials for last resort cancer treatment, but that’s not the case. There are many treatment trials guardrails those who have been brought up short. There are many treatment trials that are testing other aspects of our healthcare. Only 16% of cancer patients have had the chance to participate in a clinical trial, yet 90% of cancer patients believe that clinical trials are important. Therefore, the importance of clinical trials should be emphasized.

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