



Clinical Trials for Cancer Patients

Clinical trials are research studies in which patients can volunteer to participate. These studies test the safety and effectiveness of new treatments to find better ways to diagnose and treat cancer.



Cancer clinical trials can have different objectives, such as testing new:

- Drugs, medical procedures, or combinations of treatments
- Methods for preventing cancer
- Procedures to screen for cancer early
- Ways to improve comfort and quality of life



Should you participate in a clinical trial?

Potential benefits:	Potential risks:
✓ Access to new treatments	✓ May not get to choose the treatment you receive
✓ Close monitoring from some of the best cancer doctors	✓ New treatments may have unknown side effects or risks
✓ A more active role in your own healthcare	✓ Therapies under study are not always better than the standard care
✓ Contributing to life-saving cancer research	✓ Risks vary in each individual situation, so it's important to talk with your oncologist

Most cancer drugs go through three to four trial phases:



Phase I

Evaluates the safety of the new drug or procedure



Phase II

Tests the new drug or procedure on a specific cancer type



Phase III

The new drug or procedure is compared to current treatments



Phase IV

Additional testing after initial approval to study long-term effects or effectiveness in other cancer types



Clinical trials used to only be available at major medical centers, but are now widely accessible in community care settings.



Arizona Oncology participates in clinical trials through US Oncology Research, which has played a role in more than **90 FDA-approved cancer therapies, about one-third of all cancer therapies approved by the FDA to date.**

If you have any questions or need more information about research studies currently in progress, ask your clinical team.



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