

Clinical Trials

What are clinical trials?

Clinical trials are research studies. They test new drugs or procedures in people. The cancer treatments used today came from clinical trials.

Some clinical trials test new drugs. Others study new ways to give already approved drugs or new combinations of drugs. Some studies look at new combinations with other treatments such as surgery or radiation. Other trials may be about cancer prevention. Some may look at ways to diagnose cancer or ways to make life better for cancer patients.

Huntsman Cancer Institute's Clinical Trials Office (CTO) offers studies in many areas of cancer care.

At any given time, about 200 clinical trials for many types of cancer are open for enrollment at Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI).

How do I participate in a clinical trial?

Each clinical trial accepts patients with a specific type and stage of cancer.

You, your doctor, and HCI's clinical trials coordinators decide together whether a study is right for you. In general, you must meet these conditions:

- Doctors have diagnosed and checked the extent of your cancer.
- A doctor has reviewed your general health, and it meets study requirements.
- We have answered all your questions about the clinical trial.
- You understand the possible benefits and risks of participating in a clinical trial.
- You have signed your informed consent form.

What are the benefits and risks?

Clinical trials have both benefits and risks. Before you decide to take part in a study, doctors and clinical trial coordinators tell you all the known risks. The medical team closely watches the health of every patient who participates.

Benefits: Patients in clinical trials may receive treatments not yet available to everyone. But there is no guarantee that clinical trial treatments will help your medical condition. Taking part in the search for new and better cancer treatments can be personally satisfying. You will be helping others.

Risks: Clinical trial treatments can cause side effects and other health risks. The risks depend on the type of treatment and your condition.

You do not decide to be in a clinical trial until you understand the possible benefits and risks. You have the right to withdraw from a clinical trial at any time, for any reason.

What does it cost to be in a clinical trial?

Some clinical trial costs may be paid by the study sponsor. Many clinical trials include some standard treatments for which you or your insurance will pay.

Before you join a clinical trial, the study coordinators will discuss potential costs with you.

For more information or a complete list of current clinical trials at HCI, visit www.huntsmancancer.org/clinicaltrials or call **1-888-424-2100** toll free.