

What are clinical trials?

Clinical trials are research studies that test medical, surgical or behavioral interventions in people. They are essential to advancing medical innovation and to ensuring that safe and effective treatments move out of the laboratory to the patients who need them. Participating in clinical trials can offer hope for people affected by disease as well as the chance to help find better treatments for others in the future.

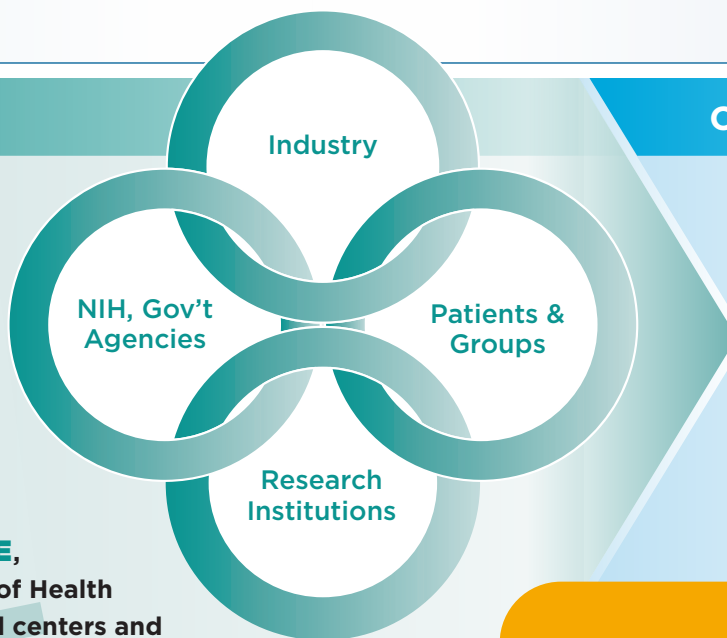
The National Institutes of Health conducts clinical trials at its Clinical Center in Bethesda, MD, and supports clinical trial research in every US state.

CLINICAL TRIALS STUDY

- New drugs or drug combinations
- New surgery methods
- New medical devices
- New uses of existing treatments
- Behavioral changes to improve health
- New ways to improve quality of life for people with acute or chronic illnesses

Clinical trials are often highly **COLLABORATIVE**, bringing together industry, the National Institutes of Health and other government agencies, academic medical centers and research institutions, and patients and disease advocacy organizations.

Any of these entities can **sponsor** a study, meaning that they initiate and have authority over the study. The study **funder** may be its sponsor or another collaborator.



CLINICAL TRIALS PROVIDE

- ✓ Hope
 - ✓ Cures
 - ✓ Better Treatments
- 

36,834
Active clinical studies
in the United States
as of June 2024

Active studies include those that are recruiting or not yet recruiting and studies that are ongoing but not recruiting.

To learn about clinical trials near you, visit ClinicalTrials.gov.