

What Is a Clinical Trial?

Clinical trials are research studies that involve patient with the goal of find better ways to prevent, diagnose, or treat diseases. Clinical trials are essential for advancing medical knowledge and for bringing new treatments to patients.

Questions to Ask About Clinical Trials

- What trials do you recommend for me and why?
- What is the purpose of the trial?
- What treatments and tests will I receive during the trial?
- What are the potential risks and benefits?
- Are there resources to help me learn more about the trial?
- How might this trial affect my daily life?
- Will I need to travel for treatment or tests?
- How long will the trial last, and what happens after it ends?

Preparing for Discussion With Your Doctor

- **Educate yourself:** Understand the basics of clinical trials and how they work.
- **Write down questions:** Prepare a list of questions to ask your healthcare team.
- **Discuss goals:** Be clear about your treatment goals and ensure you've had all of your questions answered.
- **Bring support:** Have a loved one join you for appointments or discussions.
- **Stay informed:** Keep up with the latest research and advancements in CLL treatments.

Clinical Trial Phases

- **Phase I:** The goal is to test the safety of the drug, finding the appropriate dose that produces the fewest side effects.
- **Phase II:** Further assesses the safety of the drug and the effectiveness of the treatment.
- **Phase III:** Compares the efficacy of the new treatment to the standard-of-care treatment.
- **Phase IV:** Study that looks at drugs that have already been approved to get additional safety information and to learn more about long-term benefits and side effects.

Glossary

Informed Consent: Provides a thorough explanation of the purpose of the research, including the role of the patient and how the trial will work.

Standard of Care: An established guideline that is consensus among experts as the most appropriate and/or effective treatment for a specific type and stage of cancer.

Patient Empowerment Network CLL Resources

- [Office Visit Planners](#)
- [Insist! CLL](#)
- [The CLL Pro-Active Patient Toolkit](#)
- [Clinical Trials 201](#)

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