



IS A CLINICAL TRIAL RIGHT FOR YOU?

Our research helps healthcare professionals around the country – and around the world – treat cancer more effectively. These trials give our patients access to new treatments and therapies. Clinical trials are helping us make progress toward a cure and may be a good option for you.

What are clinical trials?

Clinical trials are research studies involving people. Some trials test the safety and effectiveness of new cancer treatments. Others may test new procedures or approaches for cancer screening or prevention. Clinical trials follow very detailed and strict procedures for administering the new treatment or procedure and measuring its effects (both good and bad) on patients, compared to the standard approach. Clinical trials help improve existing treatment options for patients, and all improvements in cancer care were made possible because of clinical trials.

Why participate?

Clinical trials provide access to new drugs and treatments before they are widely available, while closely monitoring your health and any side effects. They allow you to play a more active role in your health care, and make a valuable contribution to cancer research. Despite these potential benefits, there are also risks, including unknown side effects and the possibility that the new treatments are less effective than current therapies. Patients enrolled in clinical trials will still receive standard treatment for their disease during the clinical trial.

Who is eligible?

Each study has its own guidelines explaining who is eligible to participate. Participants are typically chosen because they share common conditions, such as the type and stage of cancer, age, or gender. Our clinical trials are designed to include a variety of types of cancer in order to benefit as many patients as possible, including those who have received past treatments.

Are patients protected?

All of our clinical trials follow strict scientific and ethical principles. Each trial is carefully designed and, before they are allowed to begin, all trials are closely reviewed by independent researchers and doctors, who ensure that the trials are scientifically sound and that they protect the safety of those who participate.

Find an open clinical trial by visiting: clinicaltrials.uccrc.org/



AT THE FOREFRONT
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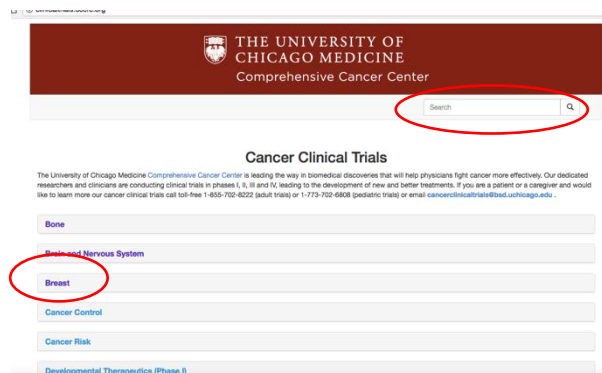


How can I find a trial?

Since each clinical trial has unique enrollment criteria, it is important that you and your physician discuss available clinical trials and whether you are eligible. Your physician will work with the study leader (called the Principal Investigator or PI) and, sometimes with a research nurse or coordinator, to help you identify if a trial is suitable for you, explain the trial, and answer any other questions you may have.

To see open cancer clinical trials at UChicago:

1. Visit clinicaltrials.uccrc.org
2. Click on the **cancer or trial type** to see all of the available trials
3. Or type in the **search box** on the upper right-hand corner with cancer type, treatment, etc.
4. Click on **details** for additional information on trial eligibility, details and design, and who to contact.



Meet Alicia Cook: Participating in a clinical trial made all the difference

Breast and ovarian cancer were common in Alicia Cook's family. Her grandmother, mother, and aunt all had been diagnosed with breast or ovarian cancer. Most of them didn't survive their cancer. That is why, when Alicia was diagnosed with triple-negative breast cancer (a type of aggressive breast cancer that is most common, and deadly in African American women), she considered all of the options.

Alicia, her UChicago physician Dr. Olufunmilayo Olopade, and the rest of her care team discussed whether a clinical trial was right for her. Ultimately, she chose to participate in a trial comparing treatments used in the U.S. versus Europe and Canada. Although it wasn't easy, Alicia's cancer journey has led to her being a 14-year breast cancer survivor. Sadly, Alicia's sister, who was diagnosed shortly after, did not survive. Alicia's experience - and her family's high risk of developing breast cancer because they carry a specific gene mutation - have motivated her to do more. She is an active and vocal breast cancer advocate and encourages cancer patients, especially African American women, to consider participating in clinical trials.



*"Clinical trials saved my life
and give me hope for a cure."
Alicia Cook, cancer survivor*

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