

Clinical Trials

Patient Education Resource Center (PERC)
Information Guide



Brochures

- CancerCare. **Clinical Trials: Improving the Care of People Living With Cancer.** A printable version of this brochure is available at:
<http://www.cancer.org>
- National Cancer Institute. **Taking Part in Cancer Treatment Research Studies.** A printable version of this brochure is available at:
<http://www.cancer.gov>

Books

- Mulay, Marilyn. **Making the Decision: A Cancer Patient's Guide to Clinical Trials.** Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett Publishers, 2002.
Review of the decision-making process, drug development, the business of clinical research and structure of clinical trials, as well as patients' rights, finances and care of the research subject.

Audiovisual Resources

- National Cancer Institute. **Understanding Clinical Trials.** 2007. 17 minutes. DVD.
This DVD talks about types of clinical trials, how they are conducted, and what to think about if you consider participating in a trial.
- Patient Education Institute. **Clinical Trials Interactive Tutorial** at Medlineplus.gov

→ Access at: <http://www.medlineplus.gov>

→ Click on: "Interactive Tutorials" and select from a list.

A slide show with voice-over and graphics explains the process and structure of clinical trials. It covers informed consent, protections for participants and how to locate clinical trials. It is possible to turn on a voice over or print a text version.

The purpose of this information guide is to direct patients and health care professionals to sources of information on cancer and related topics, it does not constitute an endorsement of the information contained in the resources. This list is not meant to be comprehensive, but rather to provide starting points for Information seeking.

All listed materials can be found at the Patient Education Resource Center of the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center in room B1-361. An online version of this document can be found at:
http://www.cancer.med.umich.edu/support/information_guides.shtml

Web Resources

- **Clinical Trials section on cancer.gov**
<http://www.cancer.gov/ClinicalTrials>

Part of cancer.gov, a service of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), this site provides explanations of the phase structure of clinical trials, the rights of participants, costs, and informed consent.

To find trials, access the search form at:

<http://www.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials/search>

A step-by-step guide for searching the NCI's clinical trials database is available by clicking on the link "Help with This Form" at the top of the search forms.

Another way to search the same database:

- **ClinicalTrials.gov** <http://clinicaltrials.gov>

This National Library of Medicine site searches all of the National Institute of Health trials, including the National Cancer Institute database which is also searchable through cancer.gov as described before. The ClinicalTrials.gov search form may be better sometimes because it enables searching by keyword. This feature makes it possible to get more relevant hits when searching ClinicalTrials.gov rather than cancer.gov.

- **Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups**

Access at: <http://www.cancertrialshelp.org>

The Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups site covers myths about clinical trials, informed consent, insurance considerations and questions to ask the doctor. The search form includes nine simple questions. The site also includes the full text of the coalition's brochures and fact sheets, frequently asked questions and a glossary.

Locating Clinical Trials at the University of Michigan

- **Engage – the University of Michigan Clinical Trials database**
<http://www.med.umich.edu/engage>

The gateway to research studies at the University of Michigan Health System includes cancer clinical trials. It is possible to use a menu and search by condition or use the search form to search by keyword and other categories.

This document is not intended to take the place of the care and attention of your personal physician or other professional medical services. Our aim is to promote active participation in your care and treatment by providing information and education. Questions about individual health concerns or specific treatment options should be discussed with your physician.

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