

# LUNG CANCER CLINICAL TRIALS

GETTING THE BEST CARE POSSIBLE



## WHAT IS A CLINICAL TRIAL?

Clinical trials are medical research studies that test new ways to prevent, diagnose or treat diseases, such as lung cancer. Clinical trials that test cancer treatments might involve the use of drugs, radiation therapy, surgery or other treatment methods.

Clinical trials are carefully conducted by doctors and trained teams to ensure that patients receive the best possible treatment and care.

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A CLINICAL TRIAL?

Clinical trials are used to test new treatments to see if they are safe and if they work well. Treatments are only brought to clinical trials after significant prior research shows that they have promise.

## WHY SHOULD I CONSIDER A CLINICAL TRIAL?

Clinical trials can help you:

**Get Exceptional Care** — Patients report they get more attention and more frequent check-ups during their clinical trial experience. Patients in cancer clinical trials receive the best cancer treatment for their type and stage of cancer.

**Access the newest treatments** — Patients participating in cancer clinical trials may have the opportunity to receive cutting-edge cancer treatments that have shown promise in early research. Many of the latest innovative treatments are only available through clinical trials.

**Feel Empowered** — By taking an active role in their care, clinical trial participants often feel empowered.

**Be a Hero** — When you participate in a clinical trial, you're investing in the future of cancer therapy for those who are diagnosed after you.

## WHEN SHOULD I CONSIDER A CLINICAL TRIAL?

No matter where you are in your treatment process, a clinical trial may be an option for you. The National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN) states that the best management of any patient with cancer is in a clinical trial.<sup>1</sup>

Some people think they should consider a clinical trial only after they've exhausted standard treatment options. However, no matter where you are in your treatment process, a clinical trial could be a good option for you. In fact, many trials are available for people who have just been diagnosed or who have early-stage lung cancer.

Find a trial at [freetobreathe.org/clinical-trials](https://www.freetobreathe.org/clinical-trials)



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## KEEP IN MIND:

Your clinical trial options will be based on your particular type and stage of lung cancer and your overall health. Talk to your doctor to see which clinical trials are appropriate for you.

- As a clinical trial participant, you can stop at any time you choose, for any reason, and return to the standard treatment.
- As with any cancer treatment option, clinical trials have potential risks and benefits. Be sure to discuss these with your doctor or the clinical trial coordinator as you make decisions.
- Many safeguards are put into place to protect patients involved in trials. All clinical trials are reviewed and followed by outside experts to make sure the patients' health and well-being are looked after.
- If you volunteer for a clinical trial, you may have additional office visits, tests, or procedures. Be sure you understand what is involved with a trial as you make your decision.

## ARE THERE ADDITIONAL COSTS TO BE IN A CLINICAL TRIAL?

Your insurance and/or the trial itself will usually pay for your care in a clinical trial. Your doctor's office should be able to help you deal with insurance issues before starting a clinical trial.

## WILL I GET A PLACEBO?

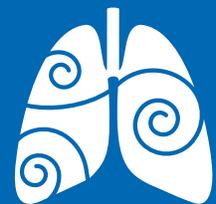
People are sometimes concerned that they might only get a "sugar pill" (placebo) and not get any treatment at all if they participate in a clinical trial. But, all patients participating in cancer clinical trials receive the best treatment known for their type and stage of cancer. If placebos (non-active pills, injections, etc) are used, patients usually receive them in addition to standard, proven treatments. Only rarely are placebos used when testing a new treatment for a particular type or stage of disease for which no standard treatments are available. If a placebo will be used in a trial, patients are fully informed.

## HOW DO I FIND A CLINICAL TRIAL?

Free to Breathe has partnered with Antidote to offer people with lung cancer a way to take action and be aware of all your treatment options. This free, confidential service helps you understand which lung cancer clinical trials might be an option for you.

Find a trial at [freetobreathe.org/clinical-trials](https://freetobreathe.org/clinical-trials).

Please call the Free to Breathe Support Line at (844) 835-4325 for help. You may also contact us at: [support@freetobreathe.org](mailto:support@freetobreathe.org) or join our online community at: [healthunlocked.com/freetobreathe](https://healthunlocked.com/freetobreathe).



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1. National Comprehensive Cancer Network. NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology (NCCN guidelines®) – Non-small Cell Lung Cancer. Version 7.2017.