



How are patients protected?

All clinical trials are reviewed and approved by the Institutional Review Board (IRB). The IRB is an independent group made up of medical experts, non-scientists and community members. The MaineHealth clinical trials office is dedicated to providing high-quality oncology clinical trials.

Clinical trials follow all of the ethical and legal requirements that apply to all medical practice. The MaineHealth Clinical Trials Office wants you to make a choice that aligns with your values. **You do not have to be part of a clinical trial and you have the right to leave the clinical trial at any time.**

If you would like more information about participating in a clinical trial, please contact us.

MaineHealth Institute of Research Clinical Trials Office, Oncology

81 Research Dr., Scarborough, ME 04074

Phone: 207-396-8670

Email: OncClinicalResearch@mainehealth.org

MaineHealth

NCI Community Oncology
Research Program

NCORP

MaineHealth Cancer Care Network (MHCCN) was awarded a 6 year NCORP grant in 2019. This NCORP grant is the largest grant ever extended by the NCI for cancer clinical trials. As a member of the NCORP community, MHCCN is able to provide access to the best possible patient care.

Why participate in an oncology clinical trial



A guide to help answer questions about participating in an oncology clinical trial

MaineHealth
CANCER CARE NETWORK
SUPPORTED BY
THE HAROLD ALFOND FOUNDATION

What is an oncology clinical trial?

A clinical trial is a research study. We offer a variety of high quality clinical trials at the MaineHealth Cancer Care Network. Participating in a cancer clinical trial is always voluntary.

The goal of clinical trials are to:

- Test new ways to treat cancer
- Find and diagnose cancer
- Prevent cancer
- Manage symptoms of cancer

Why participate?

- Past cancer clinical trials are helping current patients with cancer live longer lives.
- You may have access to certain cancer medication or procedures that are not yet available to people outside the clinical trial.
- You add to our knowledge about cancer and help improve cancer care for future patients.

Understand your options.

Ask your cancer doctor and your care team if joining a cancer clinical trial is right for you. By looking at all of your treatment options, including clinical trials, you are actively participating in decisions that impact your care.

You may not qualify for certain clinical trials. Each clinical trial has a specific set of guidelines

that have been put in place for your safety. Your cancer doctor and cancer research team will let you know what these guidelines are and if you qualify for the clinical trial.

For more information, please scan the QR code with your smartphone:

- Comprehensive Cancer Information – NCI cancer.gov
- Home – ClinicalTrials.gov clinicaltrials.gov
- Research Clinical Trials MaineHealth mainehealth.org/education-research/research-clinical-trials



How do I sign up?

If you are asked to be in a clinical trial, you will be given a consent form with information about the clinical trial. You will have time to talk about the clinical trial with your doctor and research team. Take time to think about your choices and discuss your options with a friend, family member or health care provider. You can bring someone with you to your appointment. Consider asking these questions:

- What is the study about?
- How does the treatment I receive in this trial compare to my other treatment choices?

- Is this a randomized clinical trial? A randomized clinical trial means you will not have a choice which arm (or study group) of the clinical trial you are assigned to.
- How do the possible risks and benefits compare with the standard treatment?
- If I participate in a clinical trial, will I have more tests? If yes, will I be responsible for the cost of these tests?
- If I decide to stop participating in the clinical trial, will this change the treatment I am getting outside of the trial? Can I leave the trial at any time?
- How long will the clinical trial last?

Is a clinical trial right for you?

To find out if a clinical trial is right for you, scan the QR code with your smartphone or go to www.mainehealth.org/Cancer/Cancer-Conditions/Clinical-Trials. Scroll to the bottom of the webpage and click on the ‘Refer Yourself’ button. Once you fill out and submit the referral form a Research Patient Navigator will reach out to you.

