

Clinical trials

A clinical trial is a research study that tests and compares different treatments. The main purpose of a clinical trial is to assess treatment safety and treatment side effects along with reviewing how effective a treatment or medication works. Different trials have different aims, with some trials look at comparing standard of care treatments with a new treatment or treatment combination, while others consider how well treatments control the cancer, symptoms or whether they improve quality of life.

New treatments are first tested in the laboratory before being tested on people in clinical trials. Cancer Clinical Trials are heavily regulated to ensure that results are safe, meaningful and reliable.

Participating in a clinical trial is voluntary. If you decide to participate in a clinical trial be sure you understand what is involved when you join the trial. Additional blood tests, scans, and hospital visits may be required. Carefully review all information you are provided in the consent documents and ask questions about anything you do not understand.

Clinical trials have 4 phases:

Phase 1

- Test a new treatment for the first time
- Use a small number of people

Phase 2

- Use a larger group of people
- Determine efficacy and safety

Phase 3

- Use large groups of people
- Compare to other standard treatment

Phase 4

- Takes place after a treatment has been approved for general use
- Monitor the effectiveness of a treatment in the general population
- Collect information about any side effects over longer periods of time

Clinical trials and neuroendocrine cancer

Clinical trials in neuroendocrine cancer are an ever-evolving landscape. Medical specialists are often involved in identifying people who may be eligible for clinical trials related to neuroendocrine cancer. Eligibility for clinical trials is a complex area, requiring the expertise of medical specialists and clinical research specialists.

To find out more about clinical trials

Cancer Australia

<https://australiancancertrials.gov.au/>

Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry

<https://www.anzctr.org.au/>

Cancer Council Understanding Clinical Trials and Research Booklet

<https://www.cancer.org.au/assets/pdf/understanding-clinical-trials-and-research>

International Neuroendocrine Cancer Alliance

<https://incalliance.org/find-a-trial/>

If you need further support or information about neuroendocrine cancer, contact the
NET nurses at NeuroEndocrine Cancer Australia on 1300 287 363 Monday-Friday 9am-5pm



Support



Education



Research



Awareness



Advocacy