

American Cancer Society National Cancer Information Center Clinical Trials Matching Service



Why is the American Cancer Society matching patients to clinical trials?

The American Cancer Society Clinical Trials Matching Service helps patients, their families, and health care workers find cancer clinical trials most appropriate to a patient's medical and personal situation. We are able to identify and help remove barriers that prevent patients from participating in clinical trials, thereby helping to increase enrollment.

How does this service further our mission and support the Society's priorities and leadership roles?

Clinical trial information is tailored based on a patient's diagnosis and treatment history. Our service helps patients avoid sorting through information about irrelevant or inactive research studies. We also help patients navigate through the clinical trial system by putting them in direct contact with the study coordinators.

In addition to receiving innovative treatment, clinical trial participants are contributing to cancer research that will help patients in the future. Through clinical trials, we can discover the best ways to prevent, detect, and treat cancer and its side effects.

Key Information

- 3,100 people connected to the clinical trials matching service for navigation in 2014.
- The most common cancer sites asked about were breast, lung, prostate, colorectal, and melanoma.
- Our database includes more than 10,000 unique research studies.
- We have six clinical trials specialists who are available Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-7 p.m. CT.

Key Collaborations

- Outsource the management of the clinical trials database to an outside vendor.
- Promote the service with Divisions to encourage community participation.

Milestones

- **August 2002** – The Clinical Trials Matching Service opened.
- **March 2003** – Prevention and early detection clinical trials were added to the database.
- **January 2006** – Pediatric treatment clinical trials were added to the database.
- **Spring 2006** – The service was featured in *Triumph*, a Society magazine sent to constituents and donors.
- **June 2006** – Brochures on clinical trials were created by the Society and made available to health care professionals and patients.
- **September 2007** – A partnership was launched with the Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups.
- **June 2008** – The service was highlighted during the poster session at the American Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Meeting.
- **Spring 2011** – The service was featured in *Triumph*.
- **Fall 2011-Fall 2013** – By being a dedicated resource to answer questions related to participating in the study, we helped support Cancer Prevention Study-3 enrollment, which resulted in exceeding the Society's enrollment goal of 300,000.

How does this service support the work of our Divisions?

- Gather detailed patient data.
- Identify new needs through follow-up calls.
- Track general needs of patients pursuing clinical trials.
- Provide Divisions a tangible, deliverable patient service.

Resources and More Information

- *Is a Cancer Treatment Clinical Trial the Right Choice for Me?*
- *Referring Your Patients to a Clinical Trial*
- *Clinical Trials: What You Need to Know*



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