

Understanding Clinical Research

Clinical trials are conducted to collect data evaluating the safety and benefit (efficacy) of a new drug in development. Research is typically conducted in four separate phases.

PHASE I

Phase I trials are the first set of studies with human participants, designed to assess the safety and tolerability of a drug. These monitor how a drug interacts with the body and help to determine correct dosage.



Phase II trials are designed to evaluate drug safety and benefit (efficacy) in people with the disease or condition being studied and determine the potential short-term adverse effects and risks associated with a drug.

PHASE III

Phase III trials measure drug safety and benefit (efficacy) and monitor for any adverse reactions. These studies are longer in duration and provide most of the safety data needed for regulatory approval.





PHASE IV

Phase IV trials are conducted once a drug has been approved by FDA during Post-Market Safety Monitoring and are designed to monitor for any adverse effects over a longer time period.

- ✓ Help future patients by contributing to research and science.
- ✓ Advance the understanding of a disease or condition.
- Gain access to potential therapies before they become available.



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70% of Phase I drugs

of Phase I drugs move on to a Phase II trial.

What is a Phase I Clinical Trial?

Phase I trials are the first set of studies with human participants, designed to assess the safety and tolerability of a drug. These monitor how a drug interacts with the body and help to determine correct dosage.



Can include just a few or a hundred people.



Studies how a drug is absorbed, metabolized and excreted.



Can last several months.

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33% of Phase II drugs

of Phase II drugs move on to a Phase III trial.

What is a Phase II Clinical Trial?

Phase II trials are designed to evaluate drug safety and benefit (efficacy) in people with the disease or condition being studied and determine the potential short-term adverse effects and risks associated with a drug.



Can include just a few or several hundred people.



A placebo can be introduced.



Can last several months to two years.

- ✓ Help future patients by contributing to research and science.
- ✓ Advance the understanding of a disease or condition.
- ✓ Gain access to potential therapies before they become available.



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25-30%

of Phase III drugs move on to a Phase IV study.

What is a Phase III Clinical Trial?

Phase III trials measure drug safety and benefit (efficacy) and monitor for any adverse reactions. These studies are longer in duration and provide most of the safety data needed for regulatory approval.



Can include a few hundred to a few thousand people.



Sometimes known as pivotal studies.



Can last several (1-4) years.

- √ Help future patients by contributing to research and science.
- ✓ Advance the understanding of a disease or condition.
- ✓ Gain access to potential therapies before they become available.