For more information

At the Mercyhealth Cancer Center, a number of clinical trials are always in progress. We offer a variety of Phase II/III clinical trials in many different cancer types.

Our patients participate in trials that may lead to new FDA-approved cancer treatments.

If you'd like more information about your eligibility as a clinical trial participant, talk to your doctor, email oncologyclinicaltrials@mhemail.org, or call the Mercyhealth Cancer Center–Janesville at **(608) 756-6871** or Mercyhealth Cancer Center–Rockford at **(815) 971-6188**.

Commission on Cancer

We're dedicated to offering the best cancer care in the area. Our oncology programs in Janesville and Rockford are accredited by the Commission on Cancer. The COC accreditation is a recognition of the quality of our comprehensive multi-disciplinary patient care. We're proud to have brought the very best cancer treatment closer to home.

Mercyhealth®

Mercyhealth Cancer Center–Janesville
1000 Mineral Point Ave.
Janesville, WI
(608) 756-6871

Mercyhealth Cancer Center–Rockford
2400 N. Rockton Ave.
Rockford, IL
(815) 971-6188

mercyhealthsystem.org

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Cancer Clinical Trials

Improving cancer care now and into the future

Mercyhealth®
A passion for making lives better.

What are clinical trials?

Cancer clinical trials test new treatments for people with cancer. A clinical trial is one of the last stages in a long research process. Usually, a new treatment begins with basic research in laboratory and animal studies. The best results of that research are then tested in people to determine if the new treatment is safe and effective.

Why are clinical trials important?

Most medications available today have been tested in a clinical trial. The trials help determine new and better treatments.

What are the phases of clinical trials?

Phase I trials are the first step in testing a new treatment in humans, to determine safety and identify side effects.

Phase II trials focus on trying to determine the effectiveness of a treatment for a particular condition.

Phase III trials test whether a new treatment is more effective than the standard treatment. Patients are randomly assigned to either the new treatment or the standard treatment.

Phase IV trials evaluate the long-term safety, side effects, risks and benefits of treatments already approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Benefits of participation in a clinical trial

- Participants receive high-quality cancer care and close observation by the research team.
- Participants may have access to new treatments otherwise not available.
- New treatments may be more effective than standard treatment.
- Participants may help others and improve cancer treatments.
- Participants may have access to study medication at no cost.

Risks of participation

- New treatment may not be better than standard treatment.
- New treatment may have side effects or risks that are unknown or worse than the standard treatment.
- Participants in randomized trials do not have a choice of treatment.
- Health insurance may not cover all costs.
- Participants may have to undergo more tests or procedures than is done with standard care.

Rights and protections of study participants

- The decision to participate is voluntary.
- A patient can stop study therapy at any time.
- Confidentiality is protected.
- Informed consent is obtained before enrolling in a study.
- The Institutional Review Board (IRB), a group of medical and non-medical professionals, approves and monitors each study.

Your cancer clinical research team

Oncologist

- Identifies patient for clinical trial
- Conducts discussion of risks and benefits
- Directs study treatment as outlined by the protocol
- Monitors response and side effects

Research Nurse/Coordinator

- Screens patient for eligibility
- Monitors treatment plan, response and toxicity
- Collects data to send to study sponsor
- Obtains informed consent
- Reports adverse events to sponsor and the National Cancer Institute
- Communicates with IRB

Principal Investigator

- Coordinates with the IRB to ensure protection of research subjects
- Oversees adherence to study protocol
- Reviews adverse events on study patients

Oncology Social Worker/Counselor

- Meets with all new cancer patients
- Provides emotional support before, during and after treatment
- Provides resources for patients as needed

Chemotherapy-trained Oncology Nurse

- Administers study treatment
- Monitors side effects

Oncology Nurse Practitioner and Physician Assistant

- Monitors patients between visits with oncologist
- Assesses for side effects