

# CLINICAL CANCER RESEARCH

*Encompassing more than treatment trials*

When you hear the words Cancer Research, many people immediately think of the development and testing of new drugs for the treatment of cancer. However, cancer research encompasses much more than cancer treatment. Clinical cancer research focuses on each part of a patient's journey starting with screening and continuing through survivorship. Clinical cancer research today includes clinical trials dedicated to cancer prevention, screening, diagnosis, symptom management, cancer care delivery, and survivorship.

- ❖ **Prevention trials** test new approaches, such as medications, vitamins, or other supplements, that doctors believe may lower the risk of developing a certain type of cancer or preventing recurrence of cancer following treatment.
- ❖ **Screening trials** study ways to detect cancer earlier. They are often conducted to determine whether finding cancer before it causes symptoms decreases the chance of dying from the disease. These trials involve people who do not have any symptoms of cancer.
- ❖ **Diagnostic trials** study tests or procedures that could be used to identify cancer more accurately. Diagnostic trials usually include people who have signs or symptoms of cancer.
- ❖ **Treatment trials** are conducted with people who have cancer. They are designed to answer specific questions about, and evaluate the effectiveness of a new treatment or a new way of using a standard treatment. These trials test many types of treatments, such as new drugs, vaccines, new approaches to surgery or radiation therapy, or new combinations of treatments
- ❖ **Symptom Management trials** (also called supportive care) trials explore ways to improve the comfort and quality of life of cancer patients and cancer survivors. These trials may study ways to help people who are experiencing nausea, fatigue, pain, cognitive impairment, or other effects from cancer or its treatment.
- ❖ **Cancer Care Delivery Research** focuses on patients, caregivers, providers and practice settings to identify activities and approaches that can be changed to improve care and benefit the patients directly.
- ❖ **Survivorship trials** focus on the health and life of a person following the completion of cancer treatment.

With 40 years of research experience and over 100 clinical trials available, Illinois CancerCare continues to be an expert and leader in clinical oncology research. A full listing of clinical trials is located on our website at [IllinoisCancerCare.com](http://IllinoisCancerCare.com). Speak with your physician and/or research team about what clinical trial opportunities we may have available for you.



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