

“My disease is the last thought I have before sleep and my first thought in the morning, and I am blessed every day that I get to take this medicine. I will always be grateful for the support of my Smilow family and the opportunity to be on this trial.”

Maureen, Cancer Survivor



## Yale Cancer Center Clinical Trials Office

### What is a Clinical Trial?

Clinical trials are research studies conducted with patients who participate on a voluntary basis. The goals of clinical research are to study new treatments or medical interventions and, in many cases, to compare them with a standard therapy. Each study seeks to find better ways to prevent, screen for, diagnose, or treat cancer. Patients who take part in cancer clinical trials receive innovative care from experts with dedicated experience in the development of pioneering cancer treatments. If you enroll in a clinical trial, you can expect to receive at least the standard treatment, and/or a newer therapy that we believe will be better. As Connecticut's only National Cancer Institute Comprehensive Cancer Center, Yale Cancer Center physicians have the unique ability to provide our patients with access to the most current therapies to treat cancer at Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven.

### History of Success

With a rich history of drug discovery and development at Yale, beginning with the first ever use of chemotherapy in 1942, researchers at Yale Cancer Center are finding new ways to treat cancer and to give patients renewed hope for cure of their disease. Yale is home to some of the world's leading investigators in cancer. Their knowledge and research imparts a steady stream of new therapies and advances in patient care at Smilow Cancer Hospital.

“Cancer patients who choose to receive new therapies through a clinical trial should feel confident that they are receiving the highest level of care and support by our physicians and staff. We are dedicated to giving you the best care available, and we are convinced this is best achieved by participating in clinical trials. Clinical trials are the main method by which we have been able to advance cancer care and improve treatment in the last 30 years. Your participation can lead to better outcomes for you personally and pave the way for future generations of cancer patients. It is only through clinical trials that you can receive tomorrow’s therapies today.”

Dr. Howard Hochster  
Associate Director for Clinical Sciences at Yale Cancer Center

## Learn More

Standard treatments are often the foundation for building new and improved treatments for cancer patients. Many new treatments are better understood through the clinical trial process. The decision to participate in a clinical trial is a personal choice that should be carefully considered.

A comprehensive discussion with your primary oncologist is an essential first step to deciding whether to pursue a clinical trial as a potential treatment option. Your oncologist will explain any clinical trial you are eligible to participate in; please ask as many questions as you would like so you fully understand the trial before deciding to participate. It is your choice as to whether or not you want to participate in a clinical trial.

Clinical trials are currently offered to our patients in all disease areas, including Phase I clinical trials for advanced and metastatic disease. Many of our clinical trials are also available at the Smilow Cancer Hospital Care Centers. Please ask your oncologist to review the clinical trial opportunities available to you.

You can learn more at [www.yalecancercenter.org/trials](http://www.yalecancercenter.org/trials)

### Yale Cancer Center Clinical Trials Office

20 York Street, New Haven, CT 06510

(203) 785-5702

[yalecancercenter.org](http://yalecancercenter.org)

[smilow.org](http://smilow.org)

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