



An online community where patients and their families affected by a variety of illnesses learn from each other

Combining a Trial Search Engine with Patient Communities to Drive Awareness and Education about Cancer Trials

- Kathryn Burn, Head of Partnerships and Research, Smart Patients
- Roni Zeiger MD, CEO, Smart Patients

BACKGROUND

Our online clinical trial search tool helps patients find relevant clinical trials.

Search clinical trials

enter a drug, target or condition

I am looking for trials that are [recruiting](#) in [united states](#).

Show [all treatment](#) trials.

Show trials for [any target](#).

Show [all phases](#).

Show trials within [100 miles](#) of

Show the results as a [list](#) with the [most relevant](#) first.

The tool is publicly available via smartpatients.com/trials.

The tool connects patients with the online community for support and information.

We invite patients to start a conversation about a trial within the relevant Smart Patients community. Often, patients most want to hear from another patient who has actually been in a clinical trial. We make that easy.

“Trials can be really great for many reasons. The frequent care and visits I will receive are a huge benefit for me.”
— a smart patient

MOONSHOT GOALS

Our commitment is to enhance the clinical trial search tool and the integration with our online communities so that they will:

- Make it even easier for patients to search for trials related to specific targets or targeted therapies.

Ten most promising trials for colorectal cancer

Of course, these aren't necessarily the ten most promising trials for you but if you answer a few questions, we'll help you create your own top ten to discuss with your care team.

My colorectal cancer is [\[enter stage\]](#) with [\[MSS or MSI ?\]](#).

My molecular profile is [\[enter molecular profile\]](#).

I am looking for trials that are [recruiting](#) in [the United States](#).

Show [all phases](#).

Show [all treatment types](#).

Show [all lines of therapy](#).

Show trials within [any distance](#) of

- Encourage patients to initiate conversations in our online communities about clinical trials.

Smart Patients CONVERSATIONS STORIES TRIALS search posts

home » conversations

What's it like to be in a trial?

START A CONVERSATION

Started by Laurie C about 1 hour ago

I've never been in a trial and I admit I'm a bit nervous about it. My oncologist thinks the drug is promising for me, and I think I understand that placebo isn't really an option. It's still strange to think I'm going to be in an "experiment". How have others thought about this?

tags: [clinical trials](#) REPLY

by Chuck 21 minutes ago

I felt the same way! But especially in cancer trials, it's really just a different way to get your treatment. Sometimes it is extra hassle like more tests, though that also means you're getting closely looked after. For me, I like the idea of getting cutting edge therapy and also hopefully helping others.

FUTURE GOALS

The feedback we collect from our communities is enhancing our efforts to make it easier for patients to discuss trials and thus amplifying awareness and understanding of clinical trials.

“I strongly believe in clinical trials and advancing the science through participation whenever possible.”
— a smart patient

Our near term work includes a more sophisticated integration of registry features into our community platform to maximize registry participation.

First Step: Integrate our patient communities with patient registries, in order to add a social layer which can increase patient engagement with registries.

Cancer Experience Registry of the Cancer Support Community is one of the first registries we are working with on this project.

