



Clinical Trials and Gout

Clinical trials are research studies in which patients can volunteer to help researchers find new and better ways to diagnose, safely treat and prevent disease. They compare the effectiveness of the study medicine or treatment to standard, accepted treatment or a placebo. Clinical trials are a necessary step toward the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approving a drug for use in the United States.

Benefits of participating in a clinical trial:

- You can try a new, experimental drug or a new variation of an existing drug.
- Treatment is free.
- Your health is closely monitored.
- You can further the understanding of gout and how to treat it.
- You may even contribute to discovery of a medical breakthrough.

Potential drawbacks:

- Participation may be time-consuming and require close monitoring at a hospital or away from your doctor's office.
- You may need to follow a rigid treatment schedule and keep a detailed diary.
- Participation may not benefit you directly but may ultimately help others who have the same disease.
- The treatment may not work as well as your current treatment or work at all.
- There could be side effects ranging from unpleasant to serious or even life threatening.

If you, or a friend, or family member is interested in participating in a clinical study investigating an experimental therapy for the treatment of gout visit the National Institutes of Health clinical trials website www.clinicaltrials.gov. It is a centralized source for clinical trials in various stages that are going on in 170+ countries around the world. Search for Phase 2 and Phase 3 clinical trials and the keyword gout. Look for the studies that indicate Recruiting or Not Yet Recruiting in green. One or more studies may be recruiting patients at any given time.

For more information about gout visit www.gouteducation.org.

