

How to search for clinical trials

1. Click on the central (Search) button on the home page
2. You will be directed to a page with two different search options, the BASIC and the ADVANCED, which are described below. *The ADVANCED search section yields more detailed results and is suggested for health professionals, however, anyone is free to choose this option.*
3. With either search option, select one or more criteria of interest to you and click the search button at the bottom of the page.
4. If there are **no results**, try selecting fewer limits or a broader range of criteria.

BASIC SEARCH

- Major disease: allows you to write the name of a disease and will show trials in which that disease is involved.
- Trial status: allows you to choose trials belonging to one of the categories, planned trials, open trials, trials closed to recruitment but that are still carrying out a follow-up, trials that have completed the follow-up period, withdrawn trials, and completed trials.
- Country: allows you to choose trials collected in one of the four collaborating countries. These include multinational trials, however.

ADVANCED SEARCH

In addition to the options found in the basic search section, the advanced search allows you to search by:

- Trial design/methodology: allows you to choose between observational and experimental trials, and for efficacy, prophylaxis, bioequivalence, safety, diagnostic, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamic, dose response, pharmacogenomic, or pharmacoeconomic trials.
- Class age: allows you to choose trials involving participants from one or more of the age groups.
- Phase: allows you to select trials of different phases. Phase I trials test the effects of new drugs in a small group of people. Phase II trials test safety and efficacy. Phase III trials are the last step in drug testing before approval. These involve large groups of patients and usually compare the new drug with the standard, current therapy used for

the disease. Phase IV trials are also known as “post-marketing” studies because they are carried out on drugs once they have been approved for use in the general population and collect data on the drug’s benefits, optimal uses, and adverse reactions on large samples of the general population.

- Type: allows you to choose between types of trials. Controlled trials compare groups of patients, one of which receives the drug being tested, the other another drug, a placebo, or no therapy. Randomised trials assign participants to one of the groups in a random manner in order to rule out any difference (or bias) between the single groups so that there they can be compared. In blinded studies, the participants are unaware of which treatment they are receiving. In double-blinded studies, the investigators are also unaware of which therapies the patients are receiving. In cross-over studies, all groups of patients receive each treatment in a random order, so that every patient serves as his/her own control.

SEARCH BY DISEASE AREA

- Allows you to browse trial records by disease area involved.

RESULTS

Once the Search button is clicked, a list of trials will appear. Click on the title to see more information. Trials collected by the French, Italian, or Spanish groups will display the title in English and in the country’s language. You can choose the language in which the results will be displayed by clicking on the related title.

To go back to the original search page, click the Search button on the left-hand side of the window.

MORE INFORMATION

If you need further help, contact us: dec_net@marionegri.it