Why is diversity in **clinical trials** important?

Cancer impacts people of every gender, race, ethnicity, and age, although it impacts some groups more than others.

In the US, **1in 2 men** and **1in 3 women** will develop cancer in their lifetime. Based on probability data from 2017 to 2019.



The number of new cancer cases varies by race and ethnicity

	White	Black	Hispanic/ Latino	Asian/ Pacific Islander
All cancer sites*	474	460	358	301

Cancer risk also increases with age.²

*Number of people who develop cancer for every 100,000 people.¹ Based on new patient cases from 2016 to 2020.



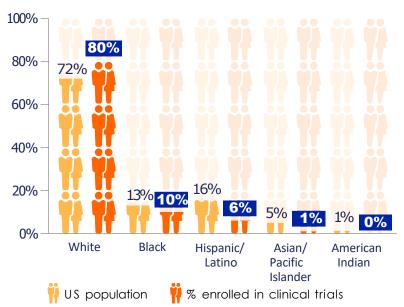
Clinical trials are done to test the effectiveness and safety of treatments in different groups of people.³

Diversity in **clinical trials** is important to help understand the **benefits** and **risks** for different populations.

Are differences in gender, race, ethnicity, and age associated with whether there are potential differences in a drug's safety and effectiveness?^{4,5} Clinical trials that reflect the diversity of patients with cancer can help answer this question.

Currently, the majority of enrollment in trials across the US is not balanced by **age**, **gender**, **race**, or **ethnicity**.

US population and trial enrollment^{6†}



†Data collected from clinical studies registered from 2000 to 2020 that reported race/ethnicity enrollment.

Clinical trial enrollment by age:5‡§

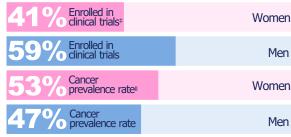
Under 65 years of age

63%

65 years of age and older

37%

Clinical trial enrollment by gender:5,7



[‡]Clinical trial enrollment data from select tumor types from 2003 to 2016. \$59% of trials in this sample categorized patients by age.

^{II}Based on newly diagnosed and pre-existing cancers in the US population in 2013.

Is a clinical trial right for me?

Participating in a clinical trial may allow you to:8



Undergo additional monitoring



Have possible access to research medications



Help others with cancer



Contribute to knowledge about how gender, race, ethnicity, and age may affect cancer treatment



Use the resources below to learn about disparities in cancer, how to enroll in a clinical trial and/or find support in your community.



Increasing diversity in clinical trials:
Clinical Trial
Diversity | FDA



How to find a clinical trial:
Steps to Find a
Clinical Trial - NCI



1-800-4-CANCER

Call (1-800-422-6237) to speak with an NCI cancer information specialist in English or Spanish.

REFERENCES: 1. Siegel RL, et al. CA Cancer J Clin. 2024;74(1):12-49. 2. Nolen SC, et al. Mech Ageing Dev. 2017;164:113–126. 3. National Cancer Institute. What Are Clinical Trials? Updated November 3, 2024. Accessed January 16, 2025. https://www.cancer.gov/research/participals/what-are-clinical-trials-divinal-dresearch/participals-dresearch/participal