

Clinical Trials and Protocols

Many children with cancer are treated on a clinical trial. The goal of clinical trials is to develop treatments with the best chance for cure with the fewest side effects. New trials are planned based on the results of past trials and what we know about the disease and cancer treatment.

Clinical trials have different phases.

- **Phase I** clinical trials offer a treatment to a small number of patients to determine how much of a medicine can be given safely.
- **Phase II** clinical trials look at the effect of a treatment on specific types of cancer.
- **Phase III** clinical trials compare a new or revised treatment plan with standard treatment.

Clinical Trial Protocols

- Each clinical trial has a detailed treatment plan, which is called the “protocol”. This explains different therapies, such as medicines, surgery, and radiation and tests that need to be done throughout the clinical trial.
- All therapies start with a full explanation of the recommended treatment plan and (parent/guardian/patient) consent. Speak with your healthcare team about different options or any concerns you may have.
- If for any reason the treatment plan is found not to be the best for your child, the plan will be changed. At any point you may choose to end your child's participation in a clinical trial.

Contact Us

For patient care assistance, please call the following phone numbers:

- Jimmy Fund Clinic (617) 632-3270
Business Hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Page Operator (617) 632-3352
Off hours: weekdays after 5 p.m., holidays, and weekends
Page pediatric hematology/oncology fellow on call
- Life Threatening Emergencies dial 911