

## Is a Clinical Trial Right for You?

Lung Cancer Initiative of North Carolina understands the more cancer patients participating in clinical trials, the faster we can research critical solutions leading to better treatment and prevention options for all cancers.

## What Is a Clinical Trial?

A clinical trial is a research study. Often the purpose of a clinical trial is to learn if a new patient treatment is more effective and/or has less side effects than the standard treatment. It can also help doctors evaluate whether new drug combinations are better for a patient.

"Participating in a clinical trial gave me the best chance to survive the #1 cancer killer. I asked my oncologist if I should be afraid of the clinical trial treatments. His response was that I should be more afraid of my tumor. Clinical trials are what drives progress in cancer treatment."

Tomma Hargraves, lung cancer patient



LUNG CANCER INITIATIVE

A NETWORK OF HOPE AND ACTION

Learn more at www.lungcancerinitiativenc.org/ clinical-trials-FAQs

## Why Join a Clinical Trial?

- A participant may receive a new treatment that could be more effective than their current treatment and they may be among the first to benefit from this treatment.
- Clinical trials can provide rewarding interactions with doctors and nurses with expertise in lung cancer.
- Research specialists in lung cancer can provide answers to many of your questions about lung cancer and/or your treatment.
- Clinical trials may offer a valuable treatment option for people who have hard to treat or advanced cancers that have not responded to standard treatments.
- Participating in a clinical trial is one way to help other cancer patients – now and in the future.
   Current drugs/treatments would not be available if past patients had not joined clinical trials and helped researchers find today's best treatments.



"Clinical trials are our best hope to cure more patients with less side effects.
Patients should consider trials both in the hopes of getting better treatment for themselves and in the hopes of helping others."

Jared Weiss, MD, pictured with Tomma Hargraves

## It is your decision . . .

Some people find they need a great many facts to make a decision while others are overwhelmed by too much information – they make a decision because it feels right to them. Regardless of how you make decisions, your medical team can assist you in determining whether to join a clinical trial. They can help you make the best decision for you, your health and your well being. Talk to your doctor/nurse or other patients. Discuss your options with your family and friends who know you the best. You can join if and when you are ready. The choice is yours!