

How Does a Clinical Trial Work?

Clinical trials are done in four phases. Each phase has a purpose and helps answer research questions.

Phase 1



Is it safe?

- Find a safe dose
- To see how the treatment affects the body – what side effects do people have?

Participants: **15–50 people**

Phase 2

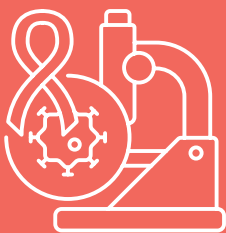


Does it work?

- Watch for side effects
- Check which dose is best and if the treatment works

Participants: **Less than 100 people**

Phase 3



Does it work better than what we already have?

- Compares if the new treatment is better than current standard treatment

Participants: **Hundreds to thousands**

Phase 4



How does it perform in the real world?

- Looks for long-term and rare side effects after the drug is FDA approved

Participants: **Several hundred to several thousand**