

Health Bulletin



Clinical Trials May Provide Cancer Patients With New Treatment Options Under Investigation

(NAPSA)—Nationwide, studies for colorectal cancer are currently enrolling participants to test new combination therapies. Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths among Americans. For patients with cancer, clinical trials can offer new treatment options.

There are benefits to participating in clinical trials. Participants receive cancer care and may have early access to the latest investigational approaches. There is no guarantee that an investigational treatment will be more effective than an existing standard of care.

Dr. Jacob Lokich of the Cancer Center of Boston, and an investigator for one of the nationwide cancer clinical trials, indicated that they can help both patients and physicians.

“Clinical trials also contribute to the overall knowledge and advancement against cancer,” said Dr. Lokich. “All of today’s most effective standard treatments are based on previous study results.”

These nationwide trials will be testing various combination therapies. For patients newly diagnosed or for those whose current or previous treatments may no longer be effective, these trials may offer new options.



According to Dr. Lokich, clinical trials offer a method to monitor and measure benefits of treatments and side effects.

Trial Participants Needed

Trial sites nationwide are now enrolling men and women, aged 18 or older who have been diagnosed with colorectal cancer. Enrollees in the studies may receive free study-related physical exams, lab work, and study medication. Patients can call the trial hotline at 1-866-44-CANCER to find the nearest trial site.

Additional information about cancer is available through the National Cancer Institute’s Web site, www.nci.gov.