



The Truths of Clinical Trials

In 2014, US databases show that African Americans are 20% of the people who have multiple myeloma, but represent only 8% of patients in clinical trials.

In order to bring African Americans into this very important field of research, a number of misconceptions need to be addressed.

The more informed you are as a patient, the more you will be able to take an active role in your own medical care and work more effectively with your doctor.

Of course, any decision regarding clinical trials should be discussed with your health care provider.

Are patients often coerced into clinical trials?

TRUTH: Once you and your doctor have decided on a clinical trial, participation is 100% voluntary. Legally, you must understand all the risks associated with the drugs being tested through informed consent.

Once you have entered a clinical trial, do you have to stay until its conclusion?

TRUTH: You can leave any clinical trial at any time for any reason.

Are clinical trials monitored by the FDA, and are they safe to join?

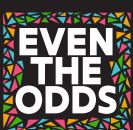
TRUTH: By law, the FDA must be involved in every new drug that is marketed to patients, therefore every clinical trial is carefully monitored.

Is clinical trial information readily available?

TRUTH: There are a number of places where you can find the latest information, starting with your own health care provider. Community organizations may also offer assistance in helping you find a suitable clinical trial.

Is there a possibility of receiving a placebo instead of the actual medication without knowing it?

TRUTH: In cancer clinical trials, a patient cannot receive a placebo without his/her consent.



To learn more about clinical trials, go to: <https://wwwext.amgen.com/science/clinical-trials/about-clinical-trials/>