

Interpreting Search Results from ClinicalTrials.gov

The "standard" or most commonly used format for clinical trials is available on **clinicaltrials.gov**, a U.S.-based website that hosts a large database of clinical trials. This site may not always be up to date, and much of the language is written for those with a medical background. Below, we have outlined some key sections to help you better understand the information when you are doing your own research.

If you are using this format to review a trial, the "**Study Details**" tab contains the relevant information for a patient or their caregiver or friends to understand.

When reviewing a study, the most useful details to start with are the following:

- **Study Overview:** General summary of the trial, explaining its purpose, goals, and why it's being done
- **Study Status:** Indicates whether a trial is recruiting participants, ongoing, completed, or stopped for various reasons. Status descriptions include:
 - **Recruiting:** The trial is actively seeking participants.
 - **Active, not recruiting:** The trial is ongoing, but no more participants are being enrolled.
 - **Completed:** The trial has finished, and data collection is complete.
 - **Terminated:** The trial was stopped early, often due to safety concerns or lack of effectiveness.
 - **Suspended:** The trial has been temporarily halted.
 - **Withdrawn:** The trial was cancelled before enrolling participants or before it was completed.
- **NCT number:** A unique identifier assigned to each clinical trial listed on clinicaltrials.gov, allowing easy tracking and reference of the study. It may be helpful to use as a reference ID to share with your oncologist.
- **Contacts and Locations:** Provides details on where the trial is being conducted and who to contact for more information, including site locations and key study personnel.
- **Participation Criteria:** Outlines the specific eligibility requirements for joining a trial, including age, gender, health conditions, and other inclusion or exclusion factors.



Note: Image shows what "Study Details" section will look like. All sections defined above.