



Prevention is the best medicine.

Clinical Research and Prevention Trials

In 2017, The University of Arizona Cancer Center at Dignity Health St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center (Cancer Center) opened 39 new clinical trials. Most were federally funded to serve the needs of the taxpayers, 10 were sponsored by pharmaceutical companies, and eight were spearheaded by University of Arizona physician-scientists to bring homegrown laboratory research to Maricopa County. A total of 24 patients were recruited to participate in clinical trials at the Cancer Center during 2017.

Since its launch in 2016, The University of Arizona Cancer Center's Clinical Trials Office in Phoenix has expanded access to cutting-edge cancer care in Maricopa County. Clinical trials provide patients with treatment options unavailable elsewhere in the Valley and advance medicine by identifying safer and more effective treatments. They are an essential component of medical research, involving the careful testing of experimental therapies, devices, screening methods, prevention methods, and other types of care.

In partnership with Dignity Health St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, The University of Arizona Cancer Center has opened clinical trials in Phoenix for many types of cancers, including breast cancer and gynecological cancers, melanoma and other skin cancers, lung cancer, kidney cancer, and cancers along the genitourinary tract. Additionally, the Cancer Center offers clinical trials in precision medicine, supportive care, and cancer prevention.

William Cance, MD, who has overseen the growth of the Clinical Trials Office in Phoenix since 2017, looks forward to expanding clinical trials in Phoenix in the coming years. The Clinical Trials Office is a bridge between Dignity Health physicians and the 73 research labs and more than 300 physicians and scientists at The University of Arizona Cancer Center in Tucson. To learn more about available trials, visit dignityhealth.org/uacc.

The National Institutes of Health defines clinical trials as “research studies that explore whether a medical strategy, treatment, or device is safe and effective for humans. These studies also may show which medical approaches work best for certain illnesses or groups of people. Clinical trials produce the best data available for health care decision-making.”