

Ready to start planning your care? Call us at [800-525-2225](tel:800-525-2225) to make an appointment.

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Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

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VIDEO | 02:37

Why Clinical Trials Are Important

Medical oncologist Dana Rathkopf explains why clinical trials are so important, and what people need to know before enrolling in a trial.

[Video Details](#) →

Quick Facts about Clinical Trials

Before you decide whether a clinical trial is right for you, make sure you know the facts.

Almost every cancer treatment offered to patients today has come about because of a clinical trial.

The goals of individual trials vary. They range from looking at new, potentially curative therapies to ones with fewer side effects.

Patients who enroll in a clinical trial at MSK receive their treatment from a compassionate and experienced staff recognized for their focus on patient safety and care.

There are no additional out-of-pocket costs to patients for treatments being studied as part of a trial.

The vast majority of trials do not use a placebo. For trials that do, patients will be fully informed before they begin the trial.

We encourage our patients to consider participating in a clinical trial from the very start of their care.

[Learn more](#)

What Is a Clinical Trial?

Clinical trials are research studies that test new treatments to see how well they work. Find out how they are helping us in the fight against cancer.

[Learn more](#)

Trial Locations

Patients who enroll in a clinical trial at any of MSK's locations will receive the most advanced treatments anywhere. We offer trials in:

[New York City](#)

[Commack, Long Island](#)

[Hauppauge, Long Island](#)

[Rockville Centre, Long Island](#)

[Basking Ridge, New Jersey](#)

[Monmouth, New Jersey](#)

[Westchester, New York](#)

Find a Clinical Trial

Search our database of clinical trials at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center that are currently enrolling new participants.

[Learn more](#)



[Christine's Story](#)



[Karen's Story](#)



[Jennifer's Story](#)



Cancer Straight Talk from MSK

Ep. 16

Lessons from a Stage 4 Cancer Survivor: A Conversation with Mary Elizabeth Williams

In this episode, Dr. Diane Reidy-Lagunes sits down with journalist, author and stage-four melanoma survivor, Mary Elizabeth Williams, to discuss what it was like being part of a phase-one clinical trial, how clear communication can affect health outcomes, how guilt often accompanies survival, and what not to say to a cancer patient. Mary Elizabeth's book is *A Series of Catastrophes and Miracles*.

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