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# **Looking for Answers**

Through Cancer Research

# Know your options





Bringing the advantages of cancer research to the community

# A Link to Advances in Cancer Research

The Metro-Minnesota Community Oncology Research Consortium (MMCORC) is a nonprofit research program sponsored by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and participating community hospitals and clinics.

This program gives people in our community access to the newest therapies available for cancer treatment, symptom management and cancer prevention. Your physician and health care team have access to these resources. The MMCORC links community cancer specialists, primary care physicians and other health professionals to NCI-approved research studies, called clinical trials.

Clinical trials are where progress is made against cancer. Advances in the prevention and treatment of cancer, and controlling the side effects of cancer treatment, depend on information gained from well conducted national clinical trials.

## Five Facts About Clinical Trials

- · Taking part in any clinical trial is voluntary
- · Not all clinical trials study treatments
- Even among clinical trials that do study treatments, not all of them study drugs
- When clinical trials do look at drugs, not all of them study new ones
- · Very few cancer clinical trials use a placebo

#### Reasons Why People Take Part in Clinical Trials

- · Receive a new treatment for their cancer
- Better manage the side effects of their cancer treatment
- Participate in new methods to prevent or detect cancer
- Contribute to the medical knowledge for improving cancer care

# Types of Research

#### Cancer Treatment

Many clinical trials are being conducted to treat most types of cancer. Your physician and the research staff can provide information on studies currently available for your type and stage of cancer.

### Symptom Management

A variety of studies are looking at ways to better control or prevent the symptoms of cancer, or the side effects of cancer treatment. Examples include studies to prevent or reduce nausea and vomiting, studies to evaluate cognitive function or fatigue, and studies to control symptoms that affect quality of life.

#### **Cancer Prevention**

Other studies are trying to find ways to prevent cancer from developing or coming back, and to better understand why some people are at higher risk for developing cancer.

#### Cancer Care Delivery

Cancer care delivery research examines how social factors, financing systems, organizational structures, health technologies, provider and individual behaviors affect cancer outcomes including:

- Access to cancer care
- Quality and cost of cancer care
- · Health and well-being of cancer patients

# More Information

For more information about MMCORC or any of the research opportunities available to you, ask your physician and health care team, visit **ccopnet.com**, call 952.993.1517 or email mmcorc@parknicollet.com.