

Embracing Your Experience Finding & Accessing Clinical Trials

Julie Clauer, Stage 4 patient

A clinical trial changed the trajectory of my disease & life



**At Diagnosis
March 2018**



**Pre-Trial
July 2020**



**Now
April 2024**

Treatment trials are not a last resort...

But could be a missed opportunity




**Minimal
Residual
Disease trial**

3rd line+ trial

2nd line trial


1st line trial

The worst time to start looking for a trial is when you ***NEED*** one

 ohyouresotough

Getting bad news at the oncologist be like:



 ohyouresotough

POV: My 3 remaining brain cells are pretending to know what you're talking about



It is never too early to look for trials!

Benefits of proactive searching

- More possibilities
- Help with overall treatment strategy & decision making
- Get comfortable with ‘trial land’ before its showtime
- It’s complicated to find a match
- It takes time to enroll

What is so complicated?



- There are over 5,000 current crc trials
- Your tumor & biology are unique....and changing
- Your preferences & constraints
- Inherent ‘unknowns’
- Lingo

There are lots of tools and resources to help search!



- Search tools
- Navigation services
- Research center trial websites
- Patient communities
- Care teams
- Trial teams
- Your network of cancer muggles who want to help
- Your well honed life skills!

A couple of suggestions on where to start...

1. 'How to' resources



- **Clinical Trial Basics** web learning center
(learn.colontown.org/learningcenter/trials-basics)
- **Searching Safari** how to look for trials guided workshop & e-learning course
(colontown.org/searching-safari)



- **COLONTOWN** peer-to-peer community's clinical trial neighborhoods (colontown.org/join)

A couple of suggestions on where to start...

2. Curated, focused listings

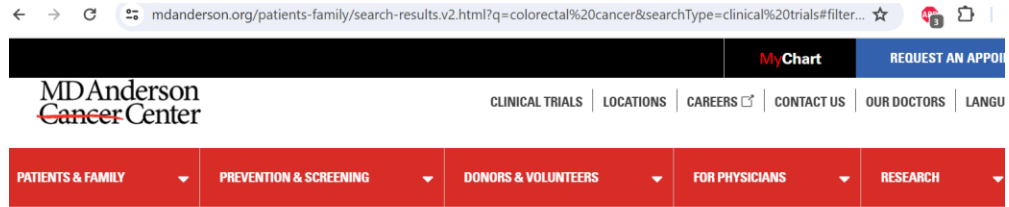
Stage 4 MSS CRC



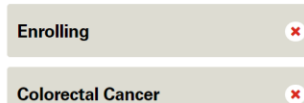
FIGHT CRC
TRIAL FINDER
POWERED BY PATIENTS

fightcolorectalcancer.org/clinical-trial-finder

Cancer Center Specific



Clinical Trials: Colorectal Cancer



Subject Results | 62 results for colorectal cancer

Example: mdanderson.org/patients-family/diagnosis-treatment/clinical-trials.html

In Summary....

- Trials can provide additional treatment options
- There are treatment trials from diagnosis to late stages of disease for healthy enough patients
- Search early and often
- It can seem overwhelming but there are many resources to help

Always happy to chat...

Julie Clauer

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