



## How to Find Jobs in Clinical Research?

Websites and resources to find clinical research jobs and learn more about the field include:

- Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP)
- Society of Clinical Research Advocates (SOCRA)
- Oncology Nursing Society (ONS)
- JobWatch
- Science Careers
- BioSpace
- National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- Job boards at local colleges, universities, hospitals, and clinics
- Job search platforms such as LinkedIn, Indeed, ZipRecruiter, Monster, etc.

## Testimonials

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On a daily basis, I get to help individual people improve their health and help move the dial on cancer research as a whole, and that is something that motivates me in the work I do.

-Laurel Nightingale, Project Manager

”

Working in clinical research allows me to support those who daily make a difference in patients' lives. Clinical research is a vital part of health care, and it's exciting to be part of this work.

-Rana Leed, Regulatory Manager

”

I like that I perform a variety of tasks and work with patients with all different conditions. It's challenging in different ways, and it's always engaging!

-Monica Erickson, Research Coordinator

# Working in Clinical Research



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**MINNESOTA**  
CANCER CLINICAL TRIALS NETWORK

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community oncology research consortium

## What Is Clinical Research?

Clinical research is the study of health and illness in people. It helps us understand how to prevent, diagnose, treat, and manage symptoms of diseases.

Clinical trials are a type of clinical research. Clinical trials can develop new treatments and assess the safety and effectiveness of treatments for diseases, such as cancer. They can also study prevention, survivorship, detection, and more. People volunteer to participate in clinical trials. The standard of care today is the result of clinical trials.

## Why Work in Clinical Research?

Many people work in research because it makes a difference in patients' lives and in the world. Research provides constant opportunities for learning and curiosity, as well as good variety day after day. There are opportunities for growth and development in research, as well as a positive job outlook in the future.

## Clinical Research Jobs

Some of the most common roles include:

- Clinical Research Coordinator (CRC): Responsible for daily operations of a study
- Clinical Research Nurse: Similar to CRC but with a nursing degree and responsibilities
- Clinical Research Associate (CRA) / Study Monitor: Monitors studies to ensure standards are followed
- Principal Investigator: Researcher or clinician who comes up with the study idea and protocol
- Project Manager: Manages study throughout the process
- Regulatory Specialist: Plans regulatory activities and prepares documents
- Biostatistician: Provide statistical support for studies
- Data Manager: Analyzes and manages study data
- Lab Technician: Analyzes research specimens in the lab
- Research Pharmacist: Prescribes and dispenses study drugs



## Clinical Research Skills & Education

Education, experience, or certifications may be required for certain clinical research positions. Everyone comes to research with a different trajectory and background.

Many skills and responsibilities can be learned on the job. Some important core skills include:

Clinical research workplaces can include:

- Hospitals and clinics
- Academic institutions
- Research centers
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Medical device companies
- Government agencies

- Independent worker
- Self-starter
- Problem solver
- Ability to multi-task and prioritize
- Life-long learner
- Effective communicator
- Critical thinker
- Project and data management
- Professionalism
- Leadership
- Workplace compliance