

Clinical Research

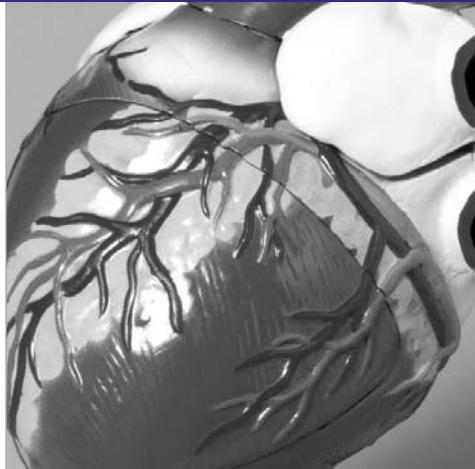
Thousands of cardiac research clinical trials are conducted around the world each year as a way to offer the best and most current health care possible. At Heart Center of the Rockies, we know that clinical research may help people live longer and feel better. Our clinical research team actively conducts research at our facility and works to match patients to the appropriate trials.

Expertise in Matters of the Heart

About Clinical Research: Clinical research is a drug discovery process. Drug development is divided into four phases. Phase I utilizes a small number of healthy young volunteers determining serum drug levels and chemical profiles being drawn on an hourly basis. Phase II trials are used in a population for which treatment is intended, involving less than 1000 patients. After successful Phase II trials, the pharmaceutical company has a good understanding of the safety and efficacy of a drug. Phase III trials build on this knowledge. These trials have several hundred to several thousand patients involving 30 to >100 centers in the United States and throughout the world. Phase IV studies bridge the gap between research and marketing and allow further data collection on the new drug or device. Only after Phase I-IV clinical trials are completed to the FDA's satisfaction are these drugs available for the general public. Heart Center of the Rockies focuses on Phase II and III drug trials.

What does this mean to you as a potential volunteer?

Volunteers participate in a clinical trial for many different reasons. People with chronic or life-threatening diseases may seek clinical trials as a way to gain



early access to promising new drugs. Some join for the extra attention they receive. Others take pride in assisting with the development of a new drug or device, bringing better health care to our community.

If you decide to participate in a clinical trial, your physician and a clinical research coordinator will speak with you about the trial before you give informed consent. They will discuss with you in an honest, straightforward manner exactly what the protocol involves, the potential side effects, the benefits and the patient's responsibility and commitment in the follow-up process.

Participating through Heart Center of the Rockies:

As a nationally recognized clinic

in all aspects of cardiac care, Heart Center of the Rockies clinical research department is regularly selected to conduct clinical trials. Our research team includes board certified cardiologists and clinical research coordinators. All of our coordinators are registered nurses with cardiology experience dedicated exclusively to conducting clinical trials.

Clinical research protocols are carefully designed to protect the volunteers involved in the research process. The FDA, prior to volunteer enrollment and throughout the trial, reviews every protocol. An Institutional Review Board (IRB) approves each protocol. The role of the IRB is to ensure that the patient's rights are protected, ensure that the informed consent lists all the information about the trial, and ensure the patient's safety.

The physicians at Heart Center of the Rockies actively support clinical research. Participation in a clinical trial is always voluntary and declining clinical research will never impact your health care in the clinic.

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Heart Center of the Rockies, the region's premier heart center, is dedicated to providing a comprehensive program of advanced cardiovascular care throughout Colorado, Wyoming and western Nebraska.

Our Cardiologists:

Gary J. Luckasen, M.D., FACC
Dennis G. Larson, M.D., FACC
William E. Miller, M.D., FACC
Todd B. Whitsitt, M.D., FACC
Thomas R. Downes, M.D., FACC
Roger C. Ashmore, M.D., FACC
Stephen A. Treat, M.D., FACC
C. Patrick Green, M.D., FACC
C. Timothy Johnson, M.D., FACC
Wyatt F. Voyles, M.D., FACC
Anthony H. Doing, M.D., FACC
Gerald I. Myers, M.D., FACC
J. Bradley Oldemeyer, M.D., FACC
Chad L. Stoltz, M.D., FACC
Matthew Purvis, M.D., FACC
William B. Baker, M.D., FACC
Charles W. Tate, III, M.D.
Justin A. Strote, M.D.

Our Surgeons:

Mark Guadagnoli, M.D., FACC, FACS
Fernando N. Lamounier, M.D., FACC, FACS

Clinical Research Staff:

Wyatt F. Voyles, M.D., FACC,
Research Medical Director
Darcee Robeson, R.N., BSN, CCRC
Nina Thompson, B.S.
Scott Kaczowski, CCRC
Joanne Coolman, CRC
Deanne Olson, R.N., MBA, CCRC

Learn More

If you are interested in participating or learning more about clinical research, please ask your cardiologist or contact Heart Center of the Rockies' Clinical Research Department at:

Heart Center of the Rockies
2121 E. Harmony Road, Suites 100 & 200
Fort Collins, CO 80528
(970) 221-1000
(800) 459-4241

Medical Center of the Rockies
2500 Rocky Mountain Avenue, Suite 100
Loveland, CO 80538
(970) 624-1800
(800) 459-4241



For more information call (970) 221-1000, (800) 459-4241, or visit www.heartcenteroftherockies.com