



**raise Is The Cure<sup>®</sup>**  
*Giving Hope. Providing Help.*  
**A Breast Health Initiative**

# Breast Cancer

EDUCATION

Clinical Trials

Praise Is The Cure®, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit affiliate of Anita T. Conner & Associates, P.C., is committed to eliminating Breast Cancer disparities among black women in Philadelphia and surrounding counties by providing breast health education, access to early detection and other support services to Breast Cancer patients, survivors, and their families.

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# Clinical Trials

Black women die from breast cancer at higher rates than any other ethnic group. Some of the reasons why include: poverty; lack of education, access to prevention and early detection services, and lack high-quality treatments. Also, it is true that most of us don't get screened like we should. But, the other truth is that there is very little medical information on which treatments would be most beneficial or effective for Black women.

## What is a clinical trial?

Clinical trials are controlled research studies where people volunteer to test new drugs that may be used to prevent, diagnose or treat serious diseases like breast cancer. Clinical trials show what medicines and health care work and what do not work in treating diseases.

## Why is there a lack of participation in a clinical trial?

Black women are not well-represented in clinical trials. Some of the barriers to clinical trials include lack of trust in the medical and research community, history of past invasive and unethical research; lack of information about ongoing trials and opportunity to join because of limited access to health care.

## Why it is important to participate in a clinical trial?

Cancer does not act the same in all women. Without representation from Black women in clinical trials, researchers cannot know whether there are specific methods or treatments that work best for them based on their lifestyle, ethnicity and genetic makeup.

Also, in addition to having a chance of getting a new treatment that may be more effective than the standard therapy for yourself, you are helping to add to new research that could improve cancer treatments for future generations of African Americans.

A final note, there are pros and cons to participating in clinical. Discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor before participating

## Resources

For more information about clinical trials or to find a clinical trial that fits your need contact [BreastCancerTrials.org](http://BreastCancerTrials.org) or National Cancer Institute @[www.cancer.gov/clinical trials](http://www.cancer.gov/clinical-trials).