



REPRESENTATIO MATTERS

People of Color Living with HIV in Clinical
Trials

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Who I Am

- Health Scientist & Research Expert
- Founder, Diverse Research Now
- Focus: Health equity & community education in clinical trials

Why This Matters

Understanding the importance of representation in clinical research is essential for achieving health equity. When communities most affected by HIV are included in trials, the resulting treatments and prevention strategies are more effective for everyone.

HIV disproportionately impacts communities of color

Research shapes treatment, prevention, and health outcomes

Representation in trials directly influences medical results

Inclusive research builds trust and improves care for all

The Reality

Key Statistics on HIV Impact

HIV disproportionately impacts communities of color. Understanding these numbers is the first step toward meaningful change and equitable representation in research.

Black/African Americans \approx 40% of new HIV diagnoses

Hispanic/Latino communities \approx 30% of new diagnoses

White populations \approx 25% of new diagnoses

These disparities demand equal representation in research



The Question

Are these same communities represented in clinical trials?

Black and Brown communities bear the greatest burden of HIV—but are they included in the research that shapes their care?



The Gap

While Black and Hispanic/Latino communities bear the greatest burden of HIV, their representation in clinical trials tells a different story. This mismatch between impact and inclusion affects the treatments developed for everyone.

Black participation in clinical trials: only ~10-15%

Hispanic/Latino participation: often less than 15%

Compare to ~40% and ~30% of new HIV diagnoses respectively

This gap affects treatment outcomes for all communities

Why Representation Matters

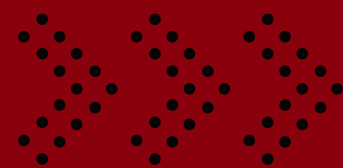
Diverse participation in clinical trials ensures treatments work for everyone and strengthens trust between communities and healthcare systems.

Treatments may work differently across populations

Improves safety and effectiveness of medications

Builds trust in healthcare systems

Ensures equitable health outcomes for all



Historical harm in medical research created deep mistrust in communities of color

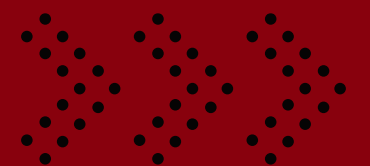
Communities have valid concerns rooted in real experiences and generational trauma

Today's research has strong protections including ethics boards and informed consent

Acknowledging this history is the first step toward rebuilding trust together

Acknowledge the History

Understanding our past helps us move forward together. Today's clinical trials have strict ethical protections, oversight committees, and informed consent processes designed to protect every participant.



What Clinical Trials Really Are

Clinical trials today are carefully designed research studies that follow strict guidelines to protect you. Understanding how they work can help you make informed decisions about participation.

Structured and regulated by federal agencies like the FDA and IRBs

Participant safety is always the top priority throughout the process

You can ask questions at any time and receive clear answers

You can opt out at any point — participation is always voluntary

Myths vs Facts

Let's separate common misconceptions from the truth about clinical trials. Understanding the facts empowers you to make informed decisions about your health and participation.

Myth: Trials are only for "last resort"

Fact: Many people participate earlier

Myth: You are a "guinea pig"

Fact: You are a protected participant

Interactive Trivia Time

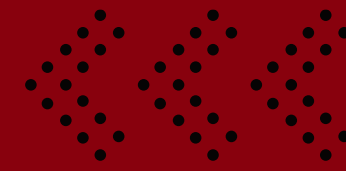


True or False?

"The communities most impacted by HIV are equally represented in clinical trials."
Think about it... then share your answer!



Trivia Question



What percentage of new HIV diagnoses occur in Black communities?

A

20%

One in five new diagnoses

C

40%

Four in ten new HIV diagnoses occur in Black/African American communities

B

30%

Nearly one in three new diagnoses

Trivia Question

"Clinical trials are only for people who have no other treatment options."
True or False?



Trivia Question

What are barriers to participation in clinical trials?

A

Transportation

Getting to trial sites can be difficult for many communities.

B

Trust

Historical harm has created valid concerns about research.

C

Awareness

Many people don't know trials exist or how to find them.

D

All of the Above

All these factors combine to limit participation in trials.

Group Discussion

When you hear "clinical trial"... what comes to mind?

Take a moment to reflect and share your thoughts with the group.



What People Need to Participate

Understanding the key factors that enable community members to feel confident and supported when considering clinical trial participation.

Clear information about what to expect

Trust in researchers and institutions

Ongoing support throughout the process

Accessibility to trial sites and resources



How Diverse New Supports Research You

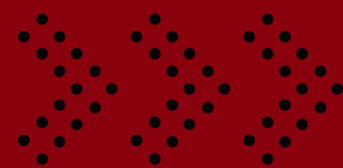
We believe in meeting communities where they are, building trust through education, and providing ongoing support throughout the research journey.

Education first approach

Safe Space conversations

Study Buddy support system

Connection to research opportunities



Research is happening with or without us — be part of the change

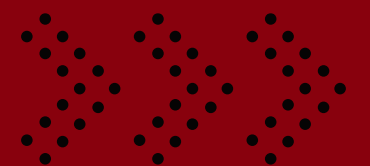
Representation shapes the future of HIV treatment and care

Participation is a choice — but awareness is power

Your community deserves to be seen and heard in research

Your Voice Matters

Research is happening with or without us. Representation shapes the future of HIV treatment and prevention. Participation is a choice — but awareness is power. Your voice can change outcomes for generations to come.





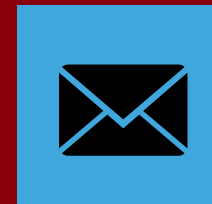
Q&A

Ask Me Anything

Have questions about clinical trials? Want to know what participation looks like, what to expect, or how to get involved? This is your time to ask anything. No question is too small — your curiosity matters.

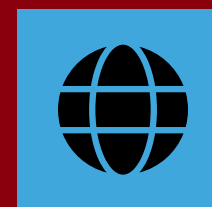
THANK YOU!

"We deserve to be seen, heard, and represented in research."



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