

Frequently Asked Questions – CVLP / SCOPE trial

How do cancer vaccine trials work?

Cancer vaccine trials are being carried out to find out whether cancer vaccines are effective at stopping cancers from returning after normal cancer treatment. This will be in the form of randomised controlled trials. This means that some patients will receive their usual cancer care in the NHS, or in addition, a cancer vaccine.

Do cancer vaccines prevent people from getting cancer?

Cancer vaccines are for people who have had a cancer diagnosed and are going through treatment. Cancer vaccines may reduce the risk of the cancer coming back in the future, but they do not prevent people from getting cancer in the first place.

Why are cancer vaccines not available to everyone who has cancer?

Cancer is different for every person, so there can't be one cancer vaccine that works for everyone. Different cancers will need to be treated by different vaccines, which is why cancer vaccines are tailored to each person and the type of cancer that they have.

What should I do if I'd like to be considered for a cancer vaccine trial?

Your local doctor will be able to let you know if there are any cancer vaccine clinical trials that you might be eligible for and will talk to you about taking part.

Can I receive other treatments at the same time as the vaccination?

Whether you will be able to receive other treatments at the same time as the vaccination is dependent on the cancer vaccine clinical trial. Sometimes cancer vaccines are given on their own after you have finished your normal cancer treatment, or they may be given at the same time. You will be able to receive treatment for any side effects or other conditions you have while receiving treatment with a cancer vaccine.

How long will the clinical trials last?

This will be dependent on the cancer vaccine clinical trial that you are taking part in.

What is the age eligibility?

The eligibility will be dependent on each cancer vaccine clinical trial. Please talk to your local hospital team to see if you are eligible for any cancer vaccine trials.

Are there criteria for taking part in the NHS Cancer Vaccine Launch Pad?

Yes, not everyone will be able to take part in the NHS Cancer Vaccine Launch Pad. Your doctor will be able to let you know if there are cancer vaccine clinical trials that you might be eligible for and will ask you if you would like to take part.

Will I be told which hospital is running the cancer vaccine clinical trial?

Before you consent to the cancer vaccine trial, you will be advised of the closest trial hospital to you. You would need to travel to this hospital to take part in the cancer vaccine clinical trial.

Does my cancer treatment transfer to the cancer vaccine trial hospital?

If you choose to take part in the trial and are eligible, you may receive a vaccine at the hospital running the clinical trial. If you choose not to take part or are ineligible, you will continue to have your normal cancer treatment at your local hospital.

Where will my normal cancer treatment take place?

Your normal cancer treatment will take place at your local hospital. Screening for the cancer vaccine trial will take place at the hospital running the clinical trial, as well as the vaccinations if you are eligible for the study.

Will I need to provide a sample of my cancer?

As part of your normal care, you will be having some or all of your cancer removed. If this has already happened, samples from your previous surgery or biopsy will be used. You will not need to undergo an extra procedure to get a tissue sample for the Cancer Vaccine Launch Pad or cancer vaccine trial.

Will I need to provide any other samples to take part in the NHS Cancer Vaccine Launch Pad?

This is dependent on the cancer vaccine clinical trial that you are being considered for. Some cancer vaccine clinical trials may require a sample of your blood to see if you are suitable to take part.

Will I be reimbursed for my travel to the trial site?

There will be reimbursement available to cover transportation, meals and parking fees for yourself and carer when you have to travel to the hospital running the cancer vaccine clinical trial. This is likely to be arranged by the hospital running the cancer vaccine clinical trial but may be arranged through your local hospital depending on the arrangements of the cancer vaccine trial.

Can I take part in other clinical trials other than for cancer vaccines?

Yes, you can take part in other clinical trials if you are eligible. You can ask your local doctor, nurse or healthcare professional if they know of any clinical trials that you may be eligible to join.

Find out more about [the Scope study](#) on the Cancer Research UK trial pages.

The [Be Part of Research](#) website, which can also be accessed on the NHS App, has information about clinical trials, what taking part might involve and any trials that may be relevant to you. Once you've found a study, you can see all the details including who to contact so you can ask to take part. You can also download, save or print the full study details so you can talk to your doctor, nurse or healthcare professional about it.

For some health conditions, you can also find out about clinical trials from the websites of charities.

If you would like to take part in the CVLP, we recommend you speak to your local hospital team to find out if you may be eligible for recruitment and [whether the study is open near you](#).