<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>What doctors want to learn</th>
<th>Types of treatments usually being tested</th>
<th>Do people in the clinical trial get different treatments?</th>
<th>Length and number of people</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Phase I   | If the new treatment is safe.  
The highest dose of a treatment that patients can get without major side effects or problems. | A new drug or procedure, new medical device, possibly a new test or surgery. | Everyone gets the same treatment. But people might get different strengths or amounts. | 10-30 people  
Several months to 1 year |
| Phase II  | If the treatment is effective | A new drug, medical device, eating habit change, surgery, medical test, or a combination of treatments | People sometimes get different treatments. This depends on the clinical trial. | Up to several hundred people  
About 2 years |
| Phase III | If the new treatment works better than the regular treatment | A new drug, medical device, eating habit change, surgery, medical test, or a combination of treatments | Yes. Doctors compare the new treatment or treatments with the regular one. | 300 to 3,000 people  
Several years |
| Phase IV  | What happens once the treatment is in use | A new drug, medical device, eating habit change, surgery, medical test, or a combination of treatments | No. Doctors collect information on what happens to people using a specific treatment. | Thousands of people  
Years |

Source: [http://www.cancer.net/clinicaltrials](http://www.cancer.net/clinicaltrials)