Program Guide
Clinical Trial MythBusters: Does the Clinical Trial Process Need an Extreme Makeover?

Useful Terms
Clinical Trial - a type of clinical study in which participants are assigned to groups that receive one or more intervention/treatment (or no intervention) so that researchers can evaluate the effects of the interventions on biomedical or health-related outcomes.

Phase 1 - studies that assess the safety of a drug or device.
Phase 2 - studies test the efficacy of a drug or device.
Phase 3 - studies involve randomized and blind testing in several hundred to several thousand patients

Pharmacogenetics - the study of inherited genetic differences in drug metabolic pathways which can affect individual responses to drugs, both in terms of therapeutic effect as well as adverse effects.

Interim analysis - an analysis of data that is conducted before data collection has been completed.

Futility analysis - used to refer to the inability of a clinical trial to achieve its objectives.

Data safety monitoring boards (DSMBs) - an independent group of experts who monitor patient safety and treatment efficacy data while a clinical trial is ongoing.

Precision medicine - customization of healthcare, with medical decisions, treatments, practices, or products being tailored to the individual patient.

Related Resources
ClinicalTrials.gov - database of privately and publicly funded clinical studies conducted around the world.

Antidote (www.antidote.me) - digital health company aiming to accelerate breakthroughs in potentially life-saving treatments by bridging the gap between medical research and the people who need it.

Blog: Are Clinical Trials Cruel or Can They Be Used as a Tool?
https://www.patientpower.info/blog/2018/04/04/does-the-clinical-trial-process-need-a-makeover

Questions Answered During the Webinar (Watch the Replay)
- Is there a more efficient and easier way to find and be accepted into clinical trials?
- Can medical records be reviewed to understand whether a trial might be a good fit?
- I live in New Zealand, am I able to access trials anywhere other than in New Zealand and how often are the trials international?
- If trials were to close sooner, do we further risk missing the identification of long-term side effects and quality-of-life issues?
- Should patients consider a trial if their current treatment is effective? Would you ever go into a trial if your existing drug is still working?

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