CTC

CLINICAL TRIAL CENTER

Center of Expertise Antwerp University Hospital (UZA)
Active in Health

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The Clinical Trial Center (CTC) provides advice and support for various aspects of clinical trials. Coordinator Iris Verhaegen explains what the CTC can do for you.

“We offer CRO (Contract Research Organization) services to researchers and companies who want to conduct a clinical trial: we assist with the start-up and execution of studies and compliance with legal, regulatory and ethical requirements. You can contact us for comprehensive guidance in all aspects as well as for ad-hoc questions about a trial.

The CTC has extensive expertise in the field of monitoring, data management and statistics. We have a pool of study coordinators with nursing and paramedical profiles for the practical execution, such as taking blood samples, data input, including and following up on study patients. We work closely with UZA lawyers and the Data Protection Officer to coordinate additional aspects of trials/studies or projects.

Thanks to the affiliation with the Antwerp University and the UZA, a company can involve the CTC in an early phase of the research and we can engage the relevant physician specialists and patient populations.

A major asset of the CTC is that we can open up access to the UZA as a clinical testing ground and thus support innovative projects. This can concern patients, healthcare technology, equipment, or the entire building. For example, we were involved in the development of a new eye screening method that was tested here.”

Would you like to call on the expertise of the CTC? Please contact coordinator Iris Verhaegen.


The Patient Advisory Board, from whom researchers can request feedback on the design of their study, the feasibility of the protocol, etc.
CTC

CTC is ...

Clinical studies · Patient advisory board · Patient safety · Data management · Statistics · Monitoring · Study coordinators · Essential documents · Electronic Binder system

By collaborating on clinical trials, we can better support ongoing trials and initiate even more innovative trials in order to improve the future of healthcare and quality of life.

Quote from Belgian Group of Digestive Oncology (BGDO)

Research groups and expertise

Thanks to the extensive collaboration between UAntwerp and the CTC UZA, there is substantial expertise in a range of professional domains. This wealth of experience results in approximately 500 studies and 1,300 peer-reviewed publications per year.
In academic multicenter studies, the UZA often takes on the role of coordinator through the CTC. There are study coordinators for each department of the UZA who supervise clinical research.

The CTC looks at the design of a study in light of the various areas of expertise and assumes a pioneering role in supporting the quality of clinical studies in the Antwerp region, including by providing training on Good Clinical Practices (GCP).

Through the UZA, the CTC is also part of the Helix network, a network of hospitals in the Antwerp region, and of Antwerp Health Harbour, an ecosystem around digital health in which healthcare actors in the region work closely together.
There is also a direct collaboration between the CTC and the Biobank Antwerp for the collection of samples in the context of clinical studies.

The CTC is part of EUREKA, the world's largest public network for international cooperation in R&D and innovation.

The CTC can participate as a partner in European projects and can form consortia together with companies.

Collaboration is possible through ...

Contract research · Use of equipment and facilities · Training · Doctorates · Master's thesis · Internships

Contact CTC

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Unique features of our equipment

The entire Antwerp University Hospital - all equipment, rooms, departments, the entire building - can be used as a clinical testing ground and specific clinical settings can be created.
If it is part of a study or research, the research infrastructure or medical equipment can be made available to companies through service contracts.

During collaboration, companies can also use the Clinical Trial Management System which was set up by the CTC as a central hub for information from all UZA studies.

In addition to the physical equipment, we have a database of healthy volunteers representing a cross-section of society. These volunteers are committed to participating in research in which UZA is involved and can be used as a control group or for research in a specific niche.

The patient advisory board is an essential part of the UZA vision of values-based research. This advisory board consists not only of patients, but also involves the broader public, such as informal caregivers. Researchers can ask the patient advisory board for feedback about the design of their study, the feasibility of the protocol, and so on.