

Clinical Trials for Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD)

Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) is the term for a range of conditions caused by a build-up of fat in the liver. It's estimated that up to one in every three people in the UK has early stages of NAFLD where there are small amounts of fat in their liver.

Importance of clinical trials for NAFLD:

Early-stage NAFLD does not usually cause any harm, but it can lead to serious liver damage, including cirrhosis (scarring of the liver), if it gets worse. Cirrhosis of the liver increases the risk of developing liver cancer (Hepatocellular Carcinoma) and other serious complications of end-stage liver disease.

Nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH) is the more advanced form of NAFLD and is defined as the condition when you have inflammation and liver cell damage, along with fat in your liver. Currently, there are no approved drugs for the treatment of NASH and therefore this represents a significant and growing unmet medical need. Clinical trials are the only way to test new ways to fight this disease.

What kind of clinical trials we have for NAFLD?

- Stage 3 clinical trials looking at the use of oral medications which are expected to halt progressive liver fibrosis and reverse existing fibrosis, thus preventing the development of cirrhosis-related complications.
- Duration range from 12 months to 5 years.
- Currently recruiting patients with Stage 2 to 3 liver fibrosis or uncomplicated cirrhosis.

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* Should you require more detailed information about the forthcoming studies for NASH, do not hesitate to ask your doctor or nurse to contact the trials team.

PALS

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) is a service that offers support, information and assistance to patients, relatives and visitors. They can also provide help and advice if you have a concern or complaint that staff have not been able to resolve for you. They can also pass on praise or thanks to our teams. The PALS office is located on the ground floor of the Hambleden Wing, near the main entrance on Bessemer Road - staff will be happy to direct you.

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