Open Scholarship at the University of Melbourne

Clinical Trials  
Preregistration, Part 2

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# Clinical Trial Registration

A specific kind of preregistration worth highlighting is that of clinical trials.

The public preregistration of clinical trials is mandated in many countries.

Here in Australia, the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research requires the public preregistration of certain clinical trials involving human participants. Also, since 2005, the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors has required the open preregistration of clinical trials for research to be considered for publication.

Under most national, funder, and published requirements, trials must have been registered in a publicly accessible registry before the enrolment of the first participant.

For this reason, it's best to complete preregistration at least two months before recruiting your first participants, as this process can take some time.

It's also worth noting that the ultimate responsibility for preregistration falls on the clinical trial's sponsor.

By registering clinical trials, we can avoid the unnecessary duplication of research, and in this case avoid unnecessary risk.

Preregistration also makes trial details available to prospective participants so they can be fully informed of how their participation and resultant data will be used.

# Clinical Trial Registries

Australia's primary clinical trials registry is the Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry (ANZCTR), which you can find out more about on the Australian Clinical Trials website. ANZCTR feeds into the World Health Organisation's International Clinical Trials Registry Platform, which brings together records from many registries.

Another prominent clinical trials registry you may encounter is ClinicalTrials.gov, which is operated by the US National Library of Medicine, but has records for studies around the world.

If you'd like to find out more about this topic, you can visit our [Open Research guide](https://unimelb.libguides.com/openresearch/) or [Open Scholarship website](https://library.unimelb.edu.au/open-scholarship/).

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