

Main Topic: Cost of Clinical Trials

Learning Objectives/Outcomes:

Topic 1: Financial Costs

Ideas

What are some factors that increase the financial costs of clinical trials?

- Factors that increase the costs of clinical trials include the number of patients participating in testing, the number of physicians and veterinarians needed to monitor patients, the purchase of supplies needed for the trials, the cost of the clinic or facility hosting the trials, and the length of time used in clinical trials.

How many drugs fail testing for every single drug that is approved for the market?

- Approximately 5,000 – 10,000.

What is the average amount spent by pharmaceutical companies in the process of testing a drug?

- Between \$100 – 800 million.

Why is the cost of purchasing new drugs sometimes so high?

- The revenue from new drugs must cover the costs of other medications that were tested but did not meet FDA approval.

Key Vocabulary

Pictures



Topic 2: Time Costs

Ideas

What are some factors of clinical trials that cause them to cost a significant amount of time?

- Time spent in research, carrying out experimental procedures, and collecting and analyzing data are factors that increase the cost of clinical trials.

Roughly how long can some clinical trials last?

- 15 years.

How long can pre-clinical trials last?

- 4.5 years.

How long can Phases I – III of clinical trials last?

- 8.5 years.

How long can it take for FDA approval?

- 1.5 years.

How long does Phase IV of clinical trials last?

- It lasts for the duration of the use of the drug.

Key Vocabulary

Pictures

