



Community Health Improvement in Pragmatic Clinical Trials

The NIH Pragmatic Trials Collaboratory [Community Health Improvement Core](#) developed this resource for research teams to help define community health in the context of pragmatic clinical trials and to provide examples of community health best practices in clinical research.

Community Health Improvement Defined

Community health improvement is a collaborative process focused on engaging communities, beyond individuals, to partner on developing, testing, and scaling initiatives to optimize the health and quality of life of all people living within the population.

Why Do This Work?

Realizing the goals of community health improvement entails continuous and purposeful effort to ensure that interventions are accessible and responsive to the healthcare needs of everyone affected. Achieving optimal community health occurs when policy and practice plus social and environmental conditions allow all individuals to attain their highest possible level of health.

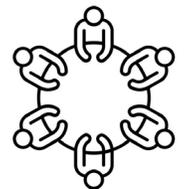
Example of challenges to be addressed:

- Limited access to participation in clinical trials
- Research that does not match community needs and priorities
- Barriers to access to healthcare, such as insurance, transportation, and literacy

How Is Community Health Integrated Within Research and Embedded Pragmatic Clinical Trials?

Community health in embedded research, including embedded pragmatic clinical trials (ePCTs), is the collaborative effort assuring that all people living within the community have optimal opportunities to learn about, participate in, complete or withdraw from, and benefit from ePCTs designed to investigate interventions for conditions affecting their health and everyday lives.

Applying the concept of community health in ePCTs requires that funders, investigators, and healthcare systems promote awareness of research studies, partner with different interest holders in communities, and allocate resources among partners to assure that scientific research answers questions that advance the health of community members and findings contribute to the advancement of population health.



What Are Examples of Efforts to Promote Community Health in Clinical Research?



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