

Background

- Clinical trials are critical for progress in childhood cancer treatment (Pritchard-Jones et al., 2008)
- Complex terminology/concepts overwhelm adolescent patients, hindering recruitment
- Trial engagement relies on family-physician alliance when offered at diagnosis
- Additional research is needed to optimize introducing clinical trials during this worrying time
- Visual aids may help inform adolescents about trials

Figure 1: Self-reported Understanding of Clinical Research

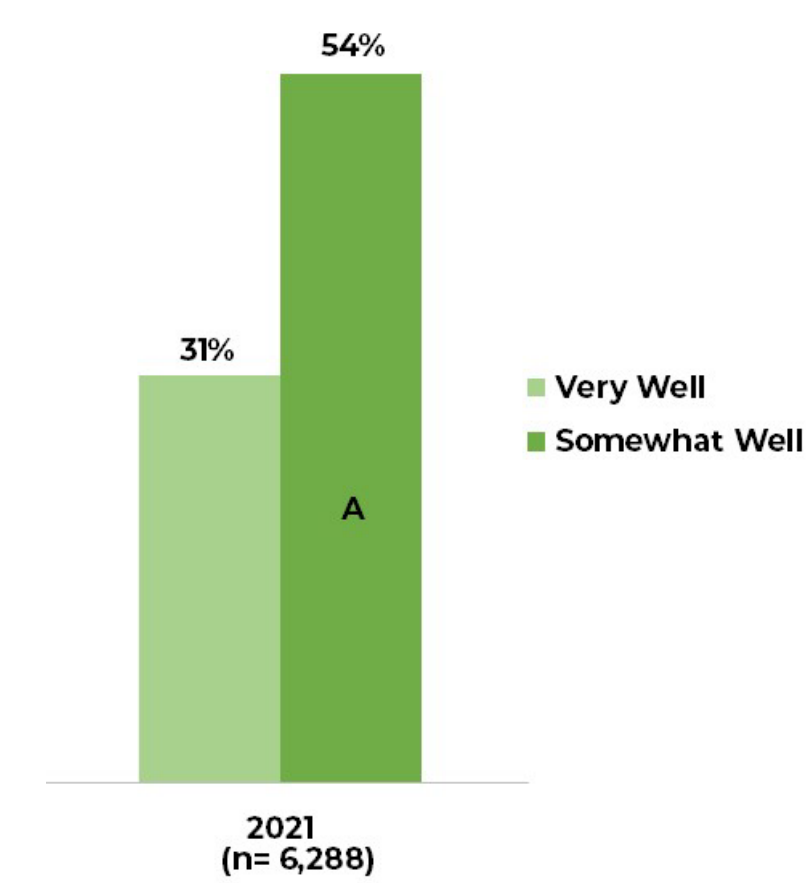
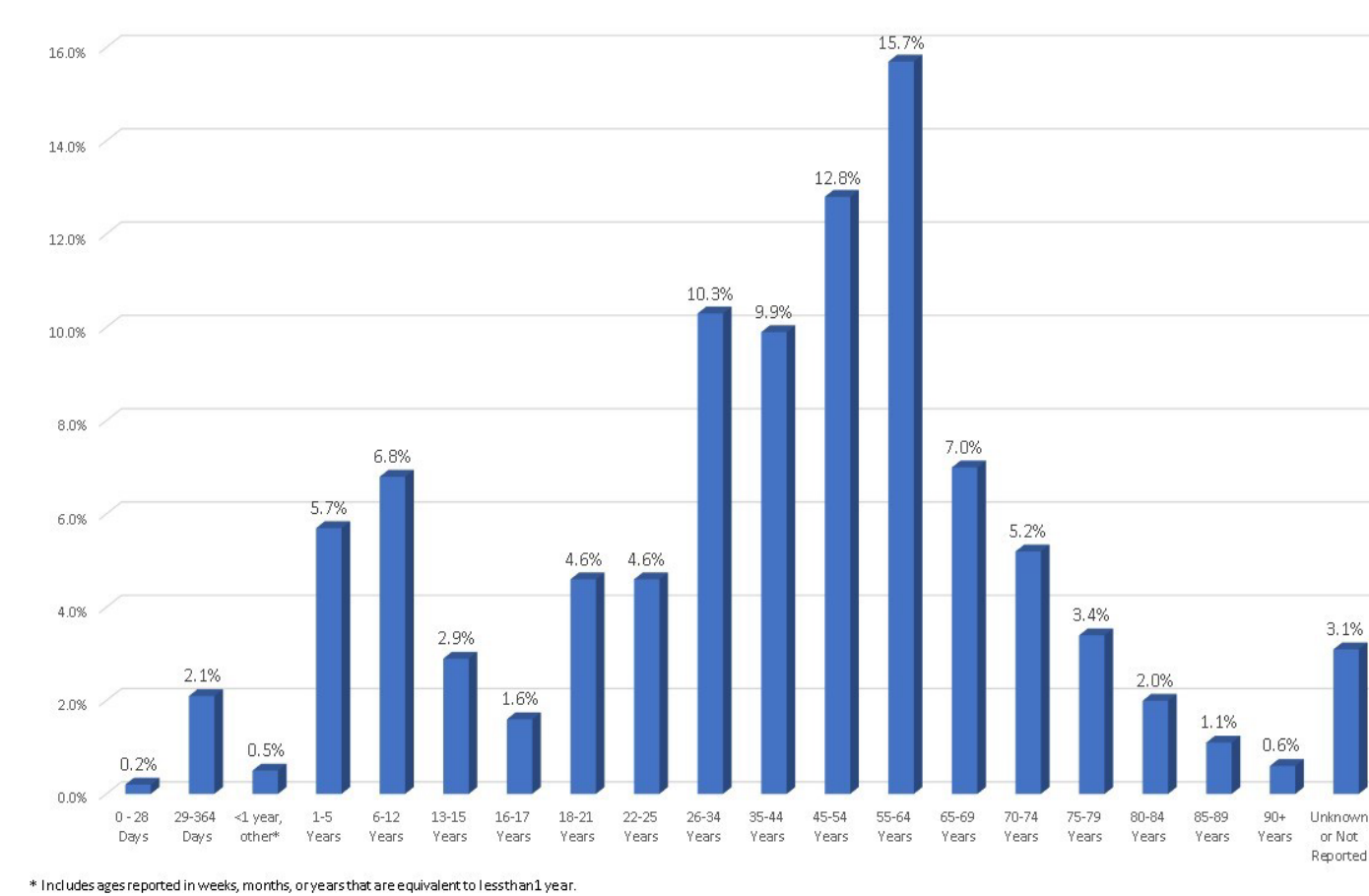


Figure 2: Participant Enrollment in NIH Research by Age Group, FY 2021



Goals

- Alleviate common fears and misconceptions about clinical trials through accessible education
- Clearly convey potential risks and benefits
- Simplify complex medical terminology
- Prioritize child comprehension of the entire clinical trial process
- Aim for accessibility through animations and relatable narratives

Tailored Video with Supplemental Visuals

CANCER IN CHILDREN

WHAT IS CANCER?
Cancer occurs when tiny parts of your body called "cells" start growing too much and don't stop. These extra cells can form lumps called "tumors" and make you feel sick. Doctors and scientists work hard to help your body fight cancer and get better!

WHO GETS CANCER?
Over 400,000 children around the world get cancer every year! Remember, you are not alone in this battle!

TYPES OF CANCER
There are many different types of cancer. Some include:
• Brain Cancer: It can affect the way you think and work.
• Leukemia: Extra cancer cells spread in your blood. It can make you feel tired and cause you to bleed easily.
• Lung Cancer: Extra cancer cells spread to your lungs. It can cause difficulty breathing.

TREATING CANCER
There is no "cure" for cancer, but there are many treatments used to help kill the cancer! These treatments include chemotherapy, radiation, and surgery.

UNDERSTANDING CLINICAL TRIALS
Doctors have the best level of testing for new treatments in the right amount of cancer. Doctors use research to find out what to do. You can help a cancer cure by joining these trials. Helping to make the future of cancer care.

PHASE 1: 20-100 PEOPLE
PHASE 2: 100-300 PEOPLE
PHASE 3: 300-3000 PEOPLE
PHASE 4: 3000+ PEOPLE

4. Sometimes good things can happen to people when they are in a research study. These good things are called "benefits." We hope that a benefit to you of being part of this study is that will be able to get rid of your cancer for a long time. But we don't know for sure if there is any benefit of being part of this study.

TUMOR

THE PROCESS OF GETTING A CHILD INVOLVED IN PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY CLINICAL TRIALS

1 SUPPORT CLINICAL TRIALS

Join the fight against pediatric cancer

Simplified Breakdown of Assent Form Cancer Pathology and Trial Procedures Supportive Infographics and Stickers



Outcomes

- Positive feedback from program mentors on potential for increased engagement and comprehension through visual interventions
- Importance of patient-centric design for educational materials to increase clinical trial participation
- Value of collaborative process incorporating feedback loops with target audience and experts

Future Directions for Research

- Integrating visuals in medical facilities and creating informational pamphlets for parents
- Conduct research studies exposing adolescents to these visuals/products and evaluate efficacy through surveys/measures on their comprehension and willingness to participate in clinical trials



Scan for full access to all our visuals!



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- Center For Info & Study on Clinical Research Participation. (2021). Charts & Statistics. CISCRP. <https://www.ciscrp.org/education-center/ch>
- FY 2021 Data on Age at Enrollment in Clinical Research Now Available by RCDC Category – NIH Extramural Nexus. (2022, April 11). <https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2022/04/11/fy-2021-data-on-age-at-enrollment-in-clinical-research-now-available-by-rcdc-category/arts-statistics/>
- Pritchard-Jones, K., Dixon-Woods, M., Naafs-Wilstra, M., & Valsecchi, M. G. (2008). Improving recruitment to clinical trials for cancer in childhood. *The Lancet. Oncology*, 9(4), 392–399. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045\(08\)70101-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1470-2045(08)70101-3)