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MORE TIME, MORE OPTIONS

CLINICAL TRIALS NEWSLETTER

Genetic testing is reshaping the future of colorectal cancer care when every voice and every zip code is included. This month, we spotlight how patients and partners are driving smarter, more inclusive research across the country.

***We want to hear from you:** Have you had biomarker testing?*

WE WANT TO KNOW!

FEATURED STORY

EXPLORING GENETIC TREATMENT OPTIONS

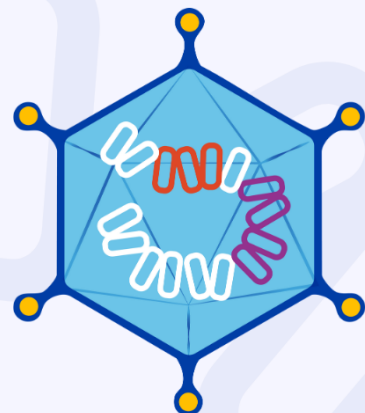
NG-350A (Phase 1b) Gene Therapy



FIRST
ASCENT
BIOMEDICAL



AKAMIS
BIO



FIGHTCRC

[First Ascent Biomedical](#) is using its xDRIVE technology in the Fight CRC-funded [xDRIVE study](#) to make genetic testing faster, more precise, and more equitable. Their advanced analytics platform helps doctors pinpoint the most effective treatment options in real time, so patients can get personalized care without long waits or barriers.

At the same time, [Akamis Bio](#) is leading the [FORTRESS clinical trial](#), exploring a new generation of gene therapy (NG-350A) designed to activate the immune system directly at the tumor site for people with rectal cancer.

[Read more](#) about these research efforts opening new doors in colorectal cancer care.

LEARN MORE

[Listen to the audio version of this article!](#)

CLINICAL TRIAL ROUNDUP

This month's [featured trials](#) explore genetic and biomarker-driven advances in colorectal cancer. These trials highlight community-based studies, MSS-IO innovations, and access programs bringing molecular testing to rural and underrepresented groups.

READ THE FULL LIST OF NOVEMBER CLINICAL TRIALS

***Disclaimer:** Inclusion in this list does not imply endorsement or a guaranteed benefit. Always consult your healthcare provider to determine whether a clinical trial is appropriate for you.*

SPOTLIGHT

Patient Voices in Action: How Your Voice Shapes the Future of Cancer Research



When research reflects real people, it leads to real change.

At the [2025 PCORI Annual Meeting](#) in Washington, D.C., Fight CRC Research Advocate and Stage IV-survivor, Bill Thach joined national leaders to discuss how patient voices are shaping smarter, more inclusive research.

The conversations went beyond the lab, tackling everyday barriers like transportation, mental health access, and the emotional weight of treatment. These realities can make or break a patient's ability to participate in, or benefit from, a clinical trial.

“At PCORI, I was reminded that engaged patients aren't just participants, they're co-creators of research,” said Bill. “When patients stay involved, and data stays accurate, we can make sure research truly serves the communities it's meant to help.”

The future of cancer research isn't just about science; it's about *you*. Bill's reflections remind us that inclusion isn't a checkbox — it's the key to breakthroughs that actually reach and help people.

BEHIND THE RESEARCH

LIVE ONLINE WEBINAR

FIGHTCRC



Understanding HER2: What Patients Need to Know

Fight Colorectal Cancer invites you to [catch the replay of our kickoff Clinical Trials Webinar Series!](#) In our first session, “*Understanding HER2: What Patients Need to Know*,” leading experts and patient advocates break down HER2-positive metastatic colorectal cancer (mCRC). You’ll also hear the latest insights from the MOUNTAINEER clinical trial and what they mean for patients.

CATCH THE REPLAY & POST-WEBINAR Q&A HERE

ACTION AND AWARENESS

November is a time for gratitude — and advocacy. Share your experiences with trial access, including any barriers around location, language, or cost, with your representatives. Your voice fuels inclusive research policies and better trial design. [Use Fight CRC’s advocacy tools →](#)

Take Action

- [Register for our next webinar](#): “Inside xDRIVE: What Functional Precision Medicine Could Mean for CRC Patients.”
- **Financial Tip**: Ask your trial site if they offer transportation, lodging, or translation support (many do), especially through inclusive research programs.
- **Explore** open trials at [ClinicalTrials.gov](#) or ask [ChatCRC](#).
- **Join** a patient advisory board or trial review panel
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