

Frequently asked questions

Learn more about what the IBM Clinical Development platform can do for your clinical research



Knowledge is power. Intrigued by the potential benefits of IBM® Clinical Development but want to know more? Listed here are answers to some of the most common questions we hear.

What's IBM Clinical Development do?

We like to think of IBM Clinical Development from Watson Health™ as the platform of choice for research professionals when studies are overwhelming, requirements are daunting and reliability is crucial. It's a highly scalable system that offers support capabilities no matter the size of your study or organization. Working from a single security-rich platform, you simply flip on the features you need to help you manage your work smarter — from building your study and managing randomization to endpoint adjudication and archiving results.

IBM Clinical Development is flexible, so you can configure it precisely to your workflow. Streamlined and designed to be up and running in a matter of days. And it's easy to learn, so you don't have to be a programmer to make the most of everything it has to offer.

Who's it for?

The short answer? Anyone responsible for planning, designing or managing a clinical study who's frustrated by big costs, big hassles, big delays — or, put another way, an overall lack of control. That's why so many sponsors and clinical research organizations "CROs" of all sizes in so many research settings (commercial, institutional and academic) in countries around the world use IBM Clinical Development.

Where does it fit in the clinical study lifecycle?

In addition to data capture and management, IBM Clinical Development lets you track inventory and supplies, conduct randomization, supervise site operation and performance, manage images and endpoint adjudication, and coordinate reporting. And that's just the tip of the IBM Clinical Development iceberg. Through our innovative IBM Clinical Configurator, you can add or subtract a host of capabilities that might be needed along the way such as translation services and patient education.

Why should I give IBM Clinical Development a try?

IBM Clinical Development represents a smart approach to study management. What do we mean? Well, it's smart to use one consistent platform for whatever you need to do. It's smart to pay for only what you use, when you use it. And it's smart that the system can make managing your study among the easiest parts of your work day.

What if I can't afford to risk picking a study management system I haven't tested?

IBM Clinical Development is a single platform that consolidates the key study management functions designed to help drive successful clinical research. With IBM Clinical Development, you pick which capabilities best fit your study dynamics. Each component or feature shares a common interface, and is designed so once you have been trained on how a capability works, you're already familiar with them all. For those interested in digging deeper, we offer advanced training where you can become a certified study designer in our platform.

Just how configurable is the system?

In a word, "very." Since every study and organization is unique, IBM Clinical Development lets you configure key components to naturally align with your workflow. Query types, data formats, fields and field conditions, alerts — you create the rules that drive how your data are captured, managed, presented and reported. Our CDASH/CDISC form can be created and imported, and a sample form is available for your use. You can also reuse key functions to help you improve efficiency and enhance standardization.

Why should I give IBM Clinical Development a try?

Here are three quick reasons (rest assured, we've got plenty more).

First, we remove the "wonder" from "I wonder if it works?" We help you mitigate risk by letting you configure your own study through a "Sandbox" trial where you get to experience first-hand how IBM Clinical Development works in a real-world scenario, with no financial commitment or software to install.

Second, we believe in transparency — especially in pricing. You can use our IBM Clinical Development Configurator to quickly and clearly identify the cost of every component in your study right at the start (thereby avoiding any "unpleasant surprises").

What if I can't risk picking a study management system I'm not familiar with?

We couldn't agree more. You shouldn't risk your study (or reputation) with an untested system. However, IBM Clinical Development is far from untested. In fact, countless clinical researchers worldwide have selected the platform as their go-to study management solution. Just jump into the IBM® Clinical Development Sandbox and take the platform out for a test drive.

I'm running a study with multinational sites. Can IBM Clinical Development handle that?

Because the TransPerfect™¹ translation function is integrated into the platform, you can use IBM Clinical Development to conduct your study and import/export source documents in more than 80 languages. For a complete and up-to-date list, please visit [TransPerfect](#). New languages and dialects are added to IBM Clinical Development to help your organization as you enter new markets and capture new opportunities.

Can I use IBM Clinical Development in any therapeutic area?

One of the keys to the rapid growth of the IBM Clinical Development user base is the platform's extraordinary flexibility. Researchers in diverse therapeutic categories have discovered the power IBM Clinical Development gives them to design and conduct studies that are tailored to their precise requirements. Whether for research on a promising compound or an innovative medical device, the IBM Clinical Development system is used by clinicians, executives and administrators who believe they can rely on it for their data management needs.

So with proposals, contracting, installation and training, how long does it take to get a study going?

IBM Clinical Development can be put to work in virtually a matter of days. Not months. Days. Seriously.

The "time equals money" truism is felt more acutely in clinical research than nearly any other industry. If your team is ready to dive in, IBM Clinical Development training often takes no more than one to two weeks, so your study can be underway quickly.

Are reports and exports an additional charge?

All reporting and exports are part of the system so you can run as many as you'd like as often as you'd like. And you can export your data in a variety of formats. IBM Clinical Development also offers advanced reporting through a powerful data analysis and visualization system created specifically for clinical research professionals. Available in the IBM Clinical Development Marketplace, its most valuable features include intelligent filters, drag-and-drop charts and graphs, and an interactive dashboard offering a high-level study overview.

How does the cost of IBM Clinical Development compare with the other top systems?

In the end, cost is a measure of value — “what do I get for what I give up?” That's where IBM Clinical Development and our pay-as-you-go model really shine. What you give up are potentially costly up-front IT investments that lock you into one system for years with features you may not ever need or want. What you get in return is a flexible platform that lets you choose only the functions and features you need, when and where you need them.

Since IBM Clinical Development can be a self-service system, what support do you offer?

We offer the following levels of support:

- You can call or chat online with the IBM Clinical Development Support Center that's staffed 24x7x365
- IBM Clinical Development-Certified Designers are available to help with study design, real-time troubleshooting or just about any question or need you may have
- Available online documentation, training manual and videos

For more information, please visit our Support Center at www.eClinicalOS.com.

I'm sold. Now what?

Complete this sentence: “If I could choose a couple of spots where I absolutely need a better handle on study management, I'd pick _____.”

With those answers in hand, you can access the IBM Clinical Configurator and select the exact capabilities you need. As you add features, you'll appreciate (and might even be surprised by) our transparency — you'll always see a running total of your complete estimate. No need to wait weeks for lengthy proposals and budgets. Once you finish the IBM Clinical Configurator, you have the tools you will need to start building your study, schedule training or talk with us to answer any questions you may have.

Let's get started!

Apply for a Sandbox Trial at www.eclinicalos.com

Come play in our sandbox.

When everybody is telling you their product is the easiest, fastest and most efficient solution, how do you decide which one to pick?

Easy. Test drive 'em.

That's why Watson Health offers what we call the Sandbox. You'll have access to virtually every capability and service we offer so you can experience first-hand what it's like to use our system in a real-world environment. So come on over and play in our Sandbox. We're holding a corner just for you. Get started at <https://pages.eclinicalos.com/getstarted>

All in one

Access one platform for your data management needs

Easy to use

Streamline your path to go-live and first patient in

Pay as you go

Avoid expensive, up-front licensing fees

About IBM Watson Health

In April 2015, IBM launched IBM Watson Health and the Watson Health Cloud platform. The new unit will work with doctors, researchers and insurers to help them innovate by surfacing insights from the massive amount of personal health data being created and shared daily. The Watson Health Cloud can mask patient identities and allow for information to be shared and combined with a dynamic and constantly growing aggregated view of clinical, research and social health data.

For more information on IBM Watson Health, visit:

ibm.com/watsonhealth.

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