

2026 DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT OF CANCER CLINICAL TRIALS COURSE

AUGUST 28: Pre-course workshop, "Clinical Trial Fundamentals: From Protocol to Practice"

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2**
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9**
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16**

OCTOBER 30: Workshop presented by the Miami Herbert School of Business, "AI in Clinical Research: A Leader's Guide to Strategy and Governance"

This course teaches basic research concepts and principles that underlie the design and actual day-to-day conduct of cancer clinical trials. CME/CNE topics include:

- Phase I, II, III, and non-interventional trial design and statistics
- Responsibilities of a PI
- Biomarkers, bioinformatics, and correlative studies
- Federal regulatory processes and funding mechanisms
- Ethical issues in clinical research, including AI
- Patient-reported outcomes in clinical trials
- Case studies highlighting issues related to recruitment and retention, community engagement, and the use of technology in clinical trials

PROGRAM DIRECTORS



Alan Pollack, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor of Radiation Oncology



Vaughn Edelson, MPH, MPA
Director, Research Support, Sylvester Office of Education and Training

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION

Sylvester.org/ClinicalTrialsCourse

Presented by:



Sponsored by:

The University of Miami
Miller School of Medicine



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OVERVIEW

Despite the exponential rate of progress in understanding the cellular and molecular biology of cancer, clinical oncology care has not fully incorporated these mechanistic insights. Accelerated improvement in the control and elimination of cancer will require clinical leaders with the following foundation:

- Thorough knowledge of clinical trial design and development.
- Understanding of the biology of different cancers and ability to identify and study relevant targets for drug and diagnostic development.
- Ability to understand, assimilate and utilize new cellular and molecular biologic discoveries to develop innovative strategies for cancer treatment, detection and prevention.
- Understanding of the strengths and limitations of laboratory investigation, and the importance of designing hypothesis-driven trials with relevant laboratory correlates.
- Working knowledge of the regulatory activities of the FDA, the impact of the NIH and the NCI on drug development programs, and the role of the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry in clinical cancer research.

This course is designed to provide physicians and others involved in developing and managing clinical trials with key information to advance a program of clinical research, to foster better clinical trial design and ultimately improve patient care.

Course goals are to:

- Discuss the full spectrum of challenges and opportunities in clinical cancer research.
- Facilitate collaborations and diverse networks among workshop participants.
- Provide guidance on the development of clinical trial protocols.
- Introduce principles of good trial design.
- Develop a cadre of well-trained, experienced clinical researchers who will become future leaders in clinically focused cancer research.

TARGET AUDIENCE

We believe clinical research education works best when people learn together—not in silos. This educational activity is intended for physicians in all oncology specialties, including hematology, medical oncology, surgical oncology, radiation oncology, gynecologic oncology, urologic oncology and pediatric oncology, as well as basic and population science researchers, pharmacists, physician assistants, advanced registered nurse practitioners, nurses, research members, residents, fellows, postdoctoral scholars and medical and graduate students.

ACCREDITATION

The University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

The University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies is an accredited provider of continuing nursing professional education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC) Commission on Accreditation.

CREDIT DESIGNATION

Physicians: The University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine designates this live activity for a maximum of 19.75 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™*. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in activity.

Nurses: The University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies designates this live activity to award a maximum of 19.75 *Continuing Nursing Education contact hours*. Nurses should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in activity.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of this activity, participants will be able to:

- Explain the concepts, rationale, key characteristics and differences for phase I, II, and III clinical trials and describe aspects of design and methodology used in each type of study.
- Describe the role of biomarkers in clinical research and apply strategies to incorporate biomarkers into study design.
- Review the value of correlative studies in clinical research.
- Discuss the differences between clinical practice and clinical research, including how ethical principles differ.
- Summarize federal regulatory requirements regarding clinical trials and the responsibilities of an investigator.
- Identify common FDA application types for drugs, devices and biologics.
- Name the committees involved in the protocol approval process and discuss aspects of protocol budgeting, contracting, etc.
- Discuss the roles of different members of the clinical research team.
- Explain how AI, including machine learning and natural language processing, can be used to analyze patient data to identify eligible candidates for trials.
- Recognize the roles and value of incorporating patient-reported outcomes into clinical research and clinical practice.
- Formulate a plan to promote community engagement in their next clinical trial.
- Discuss how the increasingly competitive landscape of drug development impacts clinical trial design and endpoints.

DISCLOSURE AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST RESOLUTION

All conflicts of interest of any individual(s) in a position to control the content of this activity will be identified and resolved prior to this educational activity being provided. Disclosure about provider and faculty relationships, or the lack thereof, will be provided to learners.

COURSE ACCESS

This course will be conducted entirely online. Login details will be included in the registration confirmation email.

Register here:
Sylvester.org/ClinicalTrialsCourse

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Professor of Radiation Oncology

Vaughn Edelson, MPH, MPA

Director, Research Support, Office of Education and Training

GUEST FACULTY

Christina Annunziata, M.D., Ph.D.

Senior Vice President, Extramural Discovery Science
American Cancer Society

Emily Baldwin, B.A.

Bioresearch Monitoring Specialist, Certified Investigator
Office of Bioresearch Monitoring Inspectorate, Office of Inspections
and Investigations, U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Sarah Chadwell, M.S., CGC

Medical Strategic Account Director
Sanofi

Viola Chitiyo, BSN, R.N., OCN

Clinical Trials Nurse
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Cody Chiuhan, Ph.D.

Assistant Vice-President for Biostatistics
Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research, Northwell Health

Marcia Cruz Correa, M.D., Ph.D.

Chief Medical Officer
PanOncology Trials

Erica Fischer-Carlidge, DNP, CNS, AOCNS, EBP-C

Chief Clinical Officer
Oncology Nursing Society

Jessica Geiger, M.D.

Program Leader, Head/Neck Oncology
Vice-Chair, Dept of Hematology/Oncology
Taussig Cancer Institute

RuthAnn Gordon, MSN, R.N., FNP, OCN

Director, Clinical Trials Nursing
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Leanne Hagen, M.S., CGC

Genetic Counselor
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Andrea Hansen, Ph.D., R.N., ACNS-BC, OCN

GI Oncology Clinical Research Nurse Coordinator
Massachusetts General Brigham Cancer Institute

Andrew Hantel, M.D., MPH

Assistant Professor of Medical Oncology
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Iskandar Haykel, M.A.

Senior Policy Analyst
Americans for Responsible Innovation

Chen Hu, Ph.D., M.S.

Associate Professor of Oncology
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine

Alexia Iasonos, Ph.D.

Attending Biostatistician; Director, Clinical Research Development
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Giuseppe Carlo Iorio, M.D.

Attending Radiation Oncologist
University of Turin, Italy

Farrah Jackson, M.S., CCRP

Clinical Research Coordinator and Program Manager
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Paul Keall, Ph.D.

Director, Image X Institute
University of Sydney, Australia

Razelle Kurzrock, M.D.

Associate Director of Clinical Research
Associate Director of Precision Oncology at the Linda T. and John A. Mellowes
Center for Genomic Sciences and Precision Medicine
Founding Director, Michels Rare Cancers Research Laboratories
Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center

Debra Lundquist, Ph.D., R.N.

Nurse Scientist/Clinical Research Nurse
Mass General Brigham Cancer Institute
Termeer Center for Targeted Therapies

Mitchell Machtay, M.D.

Associate Dean for Cancer Clinical Research
Penn State Cancer Institute

Asia McCoy, MSN-CRN, R.N., OCN

Clinical Trials Nurse
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Barb Melosky, M.D.

Clinical Professor of Medicine
University of British Columbia

Carolyn Raski, M.S., CGC

Genetic Counselor
Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital Chicago

Goli Samimi, Ph.D., MPH

Director, Cancer Prevention Clinical Trials Network (CP-CTNet)
Program Director, Breast and Gynecological Cancer Research Group
Division of Cancer Prevention, National Cancer Institute

Mirat Shah, M.D., M.H.S.

Medical Oncologist
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Clinical Oncology Instructor
Johns Hopkins University

Doris Stocker, MSN, R.N., OCN

GI Oncology Research Nurse
Massachusetts General Brigham Cancer Institute

Louis Voigt, M.D.

Intensivist; Ethics Committee Chair
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

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UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI / MILLER SCHOOL OF MEDICINE / SYLVESTER COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER FACULTY

Juan Alderuccio, M.D.

Associate Professor of Medicine

Lean Anton, APRN, FNP-C, AOCNP

Phase I Nurse Practitioner

Philip Arlen, Ph.D.

Executive Director, Sylvester Clinical Research Services

Stephanie Baboun, B.S., CCRP

Phase I Sr. Clinical Research Coordinator

Esperanza Bas, RPH, PhD

Clinical Research Pharmacist

Cynthia Beaver, MPH, CCRC

Manager, Research Support, Behavioral and Community-Based Research Shared Resource

Marijo Bilusic, M.D., Ph.D.

Professor of Medicine

Carrie Burgess, BSN, R.N., OCN, CCRP

Clinical Research Nurse

Lucia Carranza, MSN, APRN, AOCNP

Phase I Oncology Nurse Practitioner

Macarena de la Fuente, M.D.

Associate Professor of Neurology
Chief, Division of Neuro-Oncology
Neuro-Oncology Clinical Service Leader

Alicia Diaz Oria, MPH

Director, Office of Outreach and Engagement

Bria-Necole Diggs, MPH

Study Coordinator

Di Ding, Ph.D.

Sr. Manager, IRB

Stephanie Dunkle, MBA, CIP

Manager, IRB

Caridad Fulladosa, BGS

Administrative Manager

Jose Garcia, MBA

Director, Regulatory Support, Clinical Research Services

Peggy Gonzalez, Ms.ED.

Sr. Manager, Research Support, Behavioral and Community-Based Research Shared Resource

Giselle Marie Izquierdo, MSN, R.N.

Clinical Research Nurse

Erin Kobetz, Ph.D., MPH

Chief Well-Being Officer
Vice President for Health Promotion

C. Ola Landgren, M.D., Ph.D.

Professor and Chief, Division of Myeloma
Co-Leader, Sylvester Translational and Clinical Oncology Research Program

Jose Lutzky, M.D.

Professor of Medicine
Medical Director, Clinical Trials Coordination Unit

Jessica MacIntyre, DNP, MBA, APRN, AOCNP

Executive Director, Clinical Operations

Marisa Maroccia, MBA, BSN, R.N.

Manager, Clinical Research Nursing

Adriana Martinez, BSN, R.N.

Manager, Nursing

Jaime Merchan, M.D., MMSc

Professor of Medicine
Director, Phase I Program
Co-Leader, Sylvester Translational and Clinical Oncology Research Program

Craig Moskowitz, M.D.

Professor of Medicine
Director of Academic Clinician Development

Brandon Palmisano, MBA

Senior UHealth IT Data Scientist

Leslie Paz, MSN, R.N., OCN, CCRC

Director, Research Nursing

Frank Penedo, Ph.D.

Professor of Psychology
Associate Director for Population Sciences

Lisa Quammie-John, MPH

Manager of Research Support, Office of Outreach and Engagement

Estelamari Rodriguez, M.D., MPH

Associate Director of Community Outreach, Thoracic Oncology

Sandy Rosende, B.S.

Research Support Manager, Office of Outreach and Engagement

Mikhael Sekeres, M.D., M.S.

Professor and Chief, Division of Hematology

Jonathan Trent, M.D., Ph.D.

Professor of Medicine
Associate Director for Clinical Research

Aida Margarita van Mossel, MPH

Manager, Research Support, Behavioral and Community-Based Research Shared Resource

Denise Vidot, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Nursing
Director of Community and Stakeholder Engagement, Miami Clinical and Translational Science Institute

Ally Walker, BSN, R.N.

Phase I Research Nurse Specialist

Niam Yaraghi, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Business Technology and Health Management & Policy

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AGENDA

All times are in Eastern Daylight Time (UTC -4)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2026

Special pre-course workshop

10:00 – 12:00 p.m. **Fundamentals of Clinical Research: From Protocol to Practice**
Lucia Carranza, MSN, APRN, AOCNP

A comprehensive introduction to clinical research, covering key topics such as trial phases, patient enrollment and informed consent, research documentation, and protocol navigation. Designed for nurses and advanced practice providers but open to all clinical research professionals, the workshop will equip participants with practical knowledge and skills to engage in and support clinical studies and will serve as a primer for the rest of the course.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. **Welcome and opening remarks**
Alan Pollack, M.D., Ph.D.,
and Vaughn Edelson, MPH, MPA

10:15 – 11:40 a.m. **Phase I clinical trial design and statistics**
Jose Lutzky, M.D., and Cody Chiuzan, Ph.D.

11:40 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Phase II clinical trial design and statistics**
Macarena de la Fuente, M.D.,
and Alexia Iasonos, Ph.D.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2026

10:00 – 11:25 a.m. **Design of phase III therapeutic oncology trials and beyond**
Mitchell Machtay, M.D.,
and Chen Hu, Ph.D., M.S.

11:25 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Special considerations for precision medicine in lung cancer**
Barb Melosky, M.D.

12:15 – 1:00 p.m. **What it means to be a PI**
Marijo Bilusic, M.D., Ph.D.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

10:00 – 10:50 a.m. **Crafting a successful LOI**
Juan Alderuccio, M.D.

10:50 – 11:40 a.m. **Incorporating biomarkers into your clinical trials**
Jessica Geiger, M.D.

11:40 a.m. – 12:10 p.m. **Networking break**

12:10 – 1:00 p.m. *Special keynote presentation:*
Bioinformatics and liquid biopsies in contemporary clinical trials
Razelle Kurzrock, M.D.
Non-CME session / Non-CNE session

CONCURRENT SESSION

Special topics for clinical research professionals

SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. **The clinical research team in action: Working together for trial success**
Jaime Merchan, M.D., MMSc, Leah Anton, APRN, FNC-P, AOCNP, Stephanie Baboun, B.S., CCRP, Esperanza Bas, RPH, Ph.D., Giselle Marie Izquierdo, MSN, R.N., Ally Walker, BSN, R.N.

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **More than a signature: The informed consent process**
Cynthia Beaver, MPH, CCRC, Peggy Gonzalez, Ms.Ed., Aida Margarita Van Mossel, MPH

12:00 – 1:00 p.m. **Getting it right the first time: Regulatory submissions and IRB review**
Di Ding, Ph.D., Stephanie Dunkle, MBA, CIP, Jose Garcia, MBA

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2026

10:00 – 10:55 a.m. **Protocol approval from start to finish**
Craig Moskowitz, M.D.

10:55 – 11:45 a.m. **Building trust in clinical trials**
Estelamari Rodriguez, M.D., MPH

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Patient-reported outcomes in clinical trials**
Frank Penedo, Ph.D.

12:30 – 1:00 p.m. **Panel: Clinical trial funding mechanisms**
Christina Annunziata, M.D., Ph.D.,
C. Ola Landgren, M.D., Ph.D.,
Goli Samimi, Ph.D., MPH

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AGENDA (CONTINUED)

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CONCURRENT SESSION

Special topics for nurses and advanced practice providers, in collaboration with the Oncology Nursing Society



OCTOBER 2, 2026

10:00 – 10:05 a.m.	Welcome Erica Fischer-Carlidge, DNP, CNS, AOCNS, EBP-C
10:05 – 10:35 a.m.	Clinical research nursing: Role, evolution, and the future RuthAnn Gordon, MSN, R.N., FNP, OCN
10:35 – 11:25 a.m.	Frontline voices: Orientation and early-career success Carrie Burgess, BSN, R.N., OCN, CCRP, Viola Chitiyo, BSN, R.N., OCN, Marisa Maroccia, MBA, BSN, R.N., Asia McCoy, MSN-CRN, RN, OCN, Leslie Paz, MSN, R.N., OCN, CCRC
11:25 – 11:35 a.m.	Break
11:35 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.	Optimizing the patient experience in early-phase clinical trials Debra Lundquist, Ph.D., R.N.
12:05 – 12:55 p.m.	Optimizing the role of the clinical research nurse in critical trial timepoints Andrea Hansen, Ph.D., R.N., ACNS-BC, OCN, Adriana Martinez, BSN, R.N., Doris Stocker, MSN, R.N., OCN
12:55 – 1:00 p.m.	Closing, reflections, and call to action Jessica MacIntyre, DNP, MBA, APRN, AOCNP

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2026

10:00 – 10:55 a.m.	The road to regulatory approval Mikkael Sekeres, M.D., M.S.
10:55 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.	Interacting with the FDA Mirat Shah, M.D., MHS, and Emily Baldwin, B.A.
12:05 – 1:00 p.m.	International clinical trial infrastructure Marcia Cruz Correa, M.D., Ph.D., Giuseppe Carlo Iorio, M.D., Paul Keall, Ph.D.

CONCURRENT SESSION

An immersive experience in the clinical trials and tribulations of obtaining FDA approval of new treatments.

OCTOBER 9, 2026

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Dungeons and drug approvals Sarah Chadwell, M.S., CGC, Leanne Hagen, M.S., CGC, Farrah Jackson, M.S., CCRP, Carolyn Raski, M.S., CGC <i>Using a mix of knowledge and chance, this interactive game allows players to explore the clinical trials process from the viewpoint of several members of the clinical research team: PI, sponsor, pharmacist, regulatory specialist, and clinical trials coordinator.</i>
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026

10:00 – 10:50 a.m.	AI deployment in clinical trials in oncology Iskandar Haykel, M.A.
10:50 – 11:35 a.m.	How oncologists and patients with cancer view AI tools in clinical research Andrew Hantel, M.D.
11:35 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Building U-ACCESS: A case study and lessons learned in AI-driven clinical trial matching Brandon Palmisano, MBA
12:15 – 1:00 p.m.	The ethics of AI in clinical research Louis Voigt, M.D.

CONCURRENT SESSION

An interactive session highlighting foundational principles, participatory methods, and real-world case studies of community engagement in clinical research.

OCTOBER 16, 2026

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Community-engaged research in cancer clinical trials Erin Kobetz, Ph.D., MPH, and Denise Vidot, Ph.D., with Alicia Diaz Oria, MPH, Bria-Necole Diggs, MPH, Caridad Fulladosa, BGS, Lisa Quammie-John, MPH, and Sandy Rosende, B.S.
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AGENDA (CONTINUED)

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2026

New post-course workshop, in collaboration with the University of Miami Business School

Paid session: \$699, 10% early-bird discount through August 28

Non-CME session / Non-CNE session

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

AI in Clinical Research: A Leader's Guide to Strategy and Governance

Niam Yaraghi, Ph.D., Philip Arlen, Ph.D., Brandon Palmisano, MBA, Jonathan Trent, M.D., Ph.D.

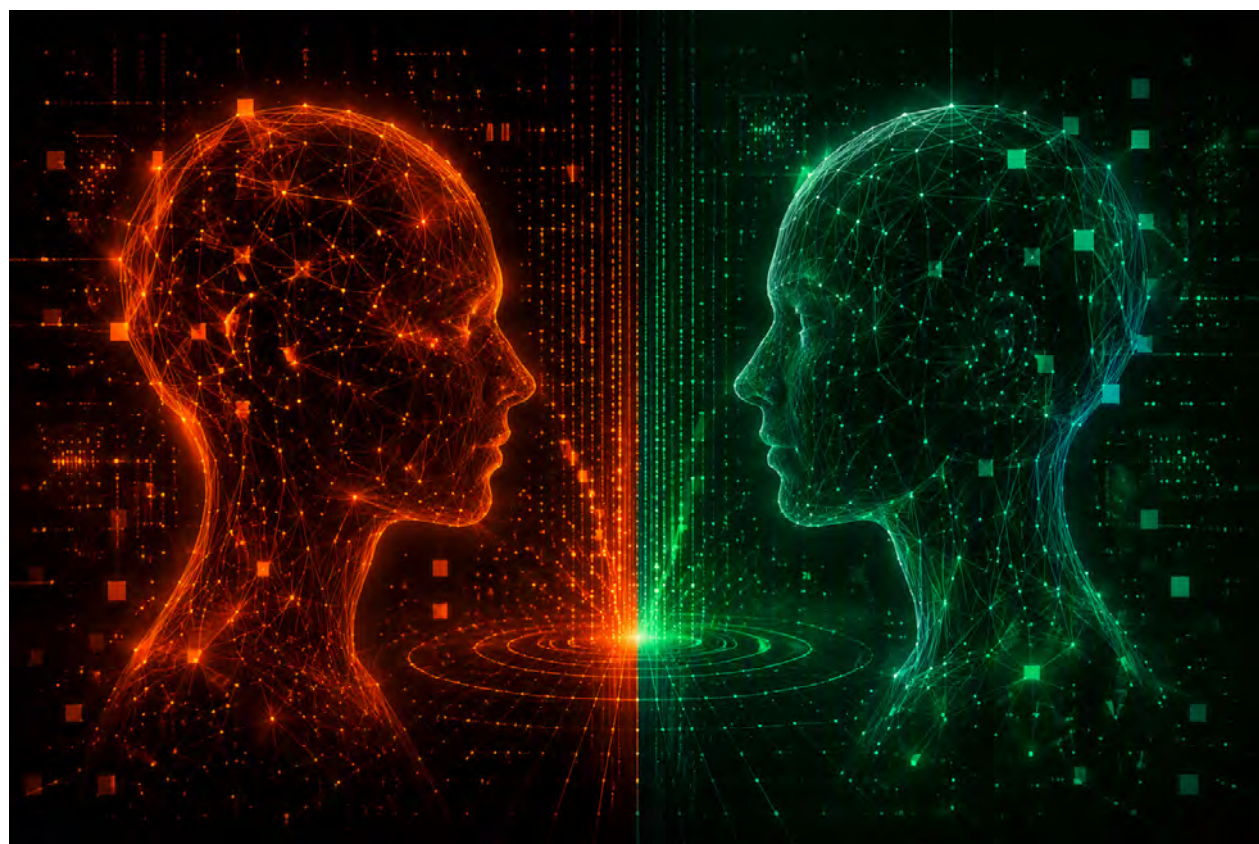
A small-group session examining the business and strategic implications of AI in clinical research, with a focus on the decisions research leaders, healthcare executives, and industry partners will need to make as AI becomes increasingly embedded in clinical trial operations. Rather than focusing on technical development, the session takes a leadership and implementation lens.

Module 1: Deciding what's worth doing. Where is AI creating real value in clinical trial operations today? Through a live case study, participants tackle a build, buy, or partner decision facing a cancer center research office and apply a practical decision matrix they can use in their own organizations.

Module 2: Governance, risk, and why pilots stall. Participants explore the five questions every leader should ask before adopting an AI tool, evaluate a real-world vendor pitch, and examine lessons from two decades of health IT implementation research. Each participant assesses an initiative from their own organization using a ten-item readiness framework.

Module 3: From the front lines. A working conversation with leaders at Sylvester/University of Miami on what AI implementation in clinical research looks like in practice. Participants receive live feedback on their own projects and gain insights from real-world successes, challenges, and lessons learned.

Dr. Yaraghi, of the University of Miami Business School and the Brookings Institution, brings both academic research and hands-on experience building AI-enabled tools in healthcare. Participants will leave with a practical playbook for driving responsible, high-value AI adoption across their organizations.



Questions? SylvesterCTC@miami.edu