National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) Clinical Trials Network (CTN):
Site Selection Process

CTN Mission

The Clinical Trials Network (CTN) of NIDA is made up of 16 regional Nodes across the U.S.

The CTN provides a way for NIDA to partner with researchers and community-based providers to develop, validate, refine, and deliver new treatment options to patients in Community Treatment Programs (CTPs). This unique partnership enables the following:

- Studies of treatment interventions (behavioral, pharmacological, and integrated behavioral and pharmacological) in rigorous, multisite clinical trials to determine effectiveness, practicality, and feasibility across a broad range of treatment settings and diversified patient populations;

- **Swift translation and implementation of research results back to community-based service providers and patients.**

Overview of the Site Selection Process

When a multisite study begins, the Lead Node (LN) of the study sends all other Nodes a list of site characteristic requirements and a Site Selection Survey.

The SW Node reviews the study's site requirements and determines eligible CTPs within their network.

The SW Node forwards the Site Selection Survey to eligible CTPs. The survey usually includes questions specifically related to the study's protocol, for example:
- patient demographics,
- target substance population,
- annual admissions,
- space availability,
- inpatient/outpatient info,
- staffing needs.

The SW Node reviews completed surveys, and forwards them to the LN for consideration.

The LN reviews all returned surveys and determines which CTPs are the best fit for the study.

A phone/virtual interview is conducted between the LN and your site's representative(s).

Once Your Site is Selected

A timeline is agreed upon between the LN and the site, which may include discussing:

- Developing subcontracts,
- Hiring staff,
- Data storage management,
- Site endorsement by NIDA,
- Standardized staff training,
- Study recruitment launch,
- Human Research Protections and Ethics

National Drug Abuse Treatment
Clinical Trials Network