

**THE CLINICAL RESEARCH IN GREECE**

The development of technology and research are quite rapid in our times. The healthcare system falls within this exponential growth and clinical research are considered to be the cornerstone of the pharmaceutical research and the development of new effective treatments. The digital age and the new technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence, are now deeply affecting the field of clinical studies in terms of design, implementation, cost, and other parameters.

The value of clinical research has been greatly appreciated by the whole of the earth’s population in the light of this SARS-CoV2 pandemic – also known as Covid-19. Probably for the first time, the public interest focuses so intensely on medical research and clinical studies. It’s not by chance that a large number of clinical trials, more than 1350 worldwide and 450 in Europe, focus on investigating new medicines, while more than 70 worldwide and 7 in Europe are investigating the development of effective vaccines. Consequently, the global community has pinned its hopes on these studies.

There are a lot of benefits expected from the clinical trials with different medicines. For instance, we can mention the therapeutic benefits for participating patients who have access to innovative treatments as well as general benefits for public health. Moreover, there will be scientific and educational benefits for the participating health care professionals, and last but not least, financial benefits because of new job openings that will strengthen clinics, laboratories, and hospitals.

In conclusion, the role of EOF is crucial to highlight the importance of these clinical trials, the creation of a steady framework for their implementation, and generally to ensure a high level of public health by using them as a tool for economic development for our country.

**Dimitrios Κ. Filippou, MD, PhD**

General Surgeon

Ass. Professor in Athens Medical School

EOF President