## What is ResearchMatch (RM)?

ResearchMatch.org (RM) is a free online recruitment and education platform that matches people interested in participating in research with researchers throughout the United States. Created with the national CTSA consortium in 2010, RM is funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) through the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), and is hosted by Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC). VUMC's Institutional Review Board (IRB) provides regulatory oversight of ResearchMatch as a whole and relies on each institution to provide local oversight.

## How does the ResearchMatch registry work?

ResearchMatch aims to help bring together volunteers and researchers. Those who join RM as a volunteer freely share their health or medication information with ResearchMatch – no data is pulled from a volunteer's electronic health record. Volunteers are connected with researchers who are conducting studies that may 'match' with the volunteer's interest and background.  Once users join RM, they may receive messages letting them know that a ResearchMatch researcher thinks they may be a possible 'match' for their study. The email messages will come from the email address: info@researchmatch.org. The researcher does not contact volunteers directly unless they give their permission to do so. Directions on how to give their permission to be directly contacted by a researcher will be included in these ResearchMatch email messages.

Researchers on ResearchMatch are able to message a de-identified cohort of potential participants based on their research study's criteria (i.e. women between the ages of 45 and 80 with heart disease). They are only allowed to contact potential volunteers if their IRB has approved all aspects of the study and given permission to use ResearchMatch as a recruitment tool.

## What Research Institutions are participating in ResearchMatch?

Currently 152 institutions across the U.S. are using ResearchMatch, such as Mayo Clinic, Emory University, NYU School of Medicine, Johns Hopkins University, Duke University, Howard University, Montefiore, UC San Diego, and Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

## How does ResearchMatch collaborate with Partner Organizations?

ResearchMatch is a not-for-profit, grant-funded effort and therefore relies on the help of other Research Institutions and Partner Organizations to raise awareness and promote the use of

ResearchMatch among their stakeholders. It is only with your assistance that we can promote ResearchMatch and research trials to the public!

1. ResearchMatch **promotes Partner Organizations** throughout ResearchMatch.org, on social media, and in our online newsletters that reach roughly 6,000 researchers, 288 institutional liaisons, and 130,000 volunteers.
2. ResearchMatch can **provide metrics to Partner Organizations** on web traffic and aggregate data on health-specific information of our volunteer base.
3. ResearchMatch could assist in the **construction of a local Trials Today tool** to be housed on Partner Organizations' websites. This clinical trial search engine tool will pull in relevant research trials from ClinicalTrials.gov

Partner Organizations act as advocates to educate the public about research participation and ResearchMatch.org.

## Trials Today

Trials Today on ResearchMatch is a quick and simplified way to search the thousands of studies available on ClinicalTrials.gov. Users only need to answer a few short questions to find a list of studies that may be of interest to them. Trials Today is a tool within ResearchMatch.org which is used to search for clinical trials, and is designed to help users figure out where to start in their research endeavors.