Phase 1:

Researchers determine a drug’s interaction with the human system.

Involves a small number of healthy volunteers and takes approximately one year.

Phase 2:

Uses controlled test that help determine a drug’s effectiveness.

100-300 volunteer patients

Animal and humans are used for testing.

Assessing the safety of the drug

Takes approximately 2 years

Phase 3:

1,000-3,000 volunteer patients

Testing done in hospital or medical clinics

Takes approximately 3 years

Test the effectiveness of the drug or any adverse reactions

After human clinical trials are complete, the firm files a New Drug Application with the FDA