INTRODUCTION
- Clinical trials are essential for the identification of effective therapies in modern medicine. A number of studies have found that only a small fraction of adults diagnosed with cancer ever enter a clinical trial.
- There has been a great deal of attention and awareness of CQs since the first CTT was performed.

OBJECTIVE
- This study is designed to document current levels of awareness, understanding, and attitude and to suggest the implications of these findings for improving communications and recruiting adults in clinical trials.

METHODS
- Cancer survivors were obtained from a panel of 40,000 adults through contact with their physicians, reading the patient awareness and enrollment. Up to two advantages were coded for each set of survivors.

RESULTS
- Awareness of cancer clinical trials:
  - Awareness of treatment, data with highest awareness (50%) among those who received a therapeutic agent.
  - Was highest among adults with a college degree.
  - Among survivors, 70% cited their physician as the source of their awareness.
  - Patient satisfaction was overwhelmingly high among clinical trial participants.

CONCLUSIONS
- There is a growing demand for patient enrollment in CCTs and it is important that adequate enrollments be attained to assure the advancement of evidence-based medicine.
- Assessing such issues, as awareness, participation, and accrual into a CCT is important, and strategies to increase awareness and accrual must include addressing the key barriers to physician involvement. Also, these data indicate that key demographic and disease-related issues must be considered when developing strategies to increase enrollment. A conceptual framework is needed to inform cancer patients and the public that participate have a very positive view of the clinical trial experience.

REFERENCES

DISCUSSION
- Approximately one out of ten cancer survivors report that they were aware that they might be able to participate in a CCT at the time of their most recent diagnosis. Three-quarters of the survivors became aware of the opportunity to participate in a CCT as a result of discussion with their primary care physician. The physician is not only the source of awareness, but is the most trusted source of information about the possibility of participating in a CCT trial consideration (data not shown).

Cancer clinical trials (CCT) awareness and cancer survivors (Ca sury). R. L. Comis, D. Colaizzi, J.D. Miller, Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups, Philadelphia, PA: Northwestern University, Chicago, IL.