



The Future of Clinical Trials

Precision Screening for Better
Patient Outcomes



Select **VoiceCom**



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Welcome

Clinical trials are expanding, but early hurdles persist. Despite increased R&D investment, nearly 37% of research sites struggle to enroll volunteers, and each day of delay adds \$600,000 to \$8 million.

Sponsors closely monitor recruitment, yet trials still lose qualified patients during screening. Complex protocols, staffing limits, and inconsistent practices impede progress, even when patient interest is substantial.

As clinical trial designs become more specialized and eligibility criteria narrow, precise and efficient screening has become essential to success. Improving precision at this stage accelerates timelines, strengthens patient experience, and enhances data and outcomes.

This white paper examines why precision screening is critical to clinical trial readiness. It outlines how strategic outsourcing can help teams quickly and accurately identify and enroll the right patients, ultimately improving trial outcomes and fostering confidence in trial success.

Introduction



Why Clinical Trials Slow Down Before Enrollment

Patient interest rarely delays clinical trials. Most delays begin earlier, during screening, before teams enroll the first patient.

Stricter eligibility and complex protocols lengthen screening. For example, screen failures can range from 20–30% in genitourinary cancer to 70–80% in Alzheimer's studies.

These challenges slow enrollment, strain site teams, and increase costs. If patients wait too long or receive unclear communication, many disengage before enrollment.

Persistent screening delays disrupt recruitment planning and trial timelines. Early issues can quickly escalate into larger problems that teams cannot easily resolve once deadlines are missed.

Outsourcing as a Strategic Response to Screening Challenges

Screening is getting more complicated, making it harder for in-house teams to keep up. Effective screening requires dedicated staff, structured workflows, and consistent patient engagement.

Outsourcing has become a strategic solution. Sponsors increasingly outsource clinical trial tasks to specialized partners who identify, screen, and engage patients. This shift is rapidly expanding the clinical trial outsourcing market, which was valued at \$50.7 billion in 2024 and is projected to reach \$101.9 billion by 2035. By outsourcing, organizations can control costs, accelerate timelines, and tap into specialized expertise.

Delays at the screening stage can jeopardize studies, but outsourcing offers dedicated support to maintain steady progress. Experienced partners stabilize operations, ensure smoother trial advancement, and help sponsors avoid disruptions throughout the screening and enrollment process.



The Screening Imperative in Clinical Trials



The Role of Screening Across the Clinical Trial Lifecycle

Every clinical trial follows key steps: protocol design, site activation, recruitment, screening, enrollment, treatment, and analysis. Each step matters, but screening is where planning meets real-world action. Recruitment generates interest. Enrollment formalizes participation. Screening bridges these stages by converting interest into qualified enrollment.

During screening, teams apply eligibility criteria, review medical histories, verify documentation, and confirm patient understanding. As protocols become more complex, screening demands greater precision and more resources.

Efficient screening sustains momentum and keeps trials on schedule. Ineffective screening creates delays that often persist throughout the study.

How Screening Breakdowns Disrupt Trial Timelines

Misaligned screening processes cause widespread delays. Manual workflows, inconsistent criteria, and slow follow-ups create friction across sites and patient groups.

Potential participants often wait days or weeks for confirmation, increasing the risk of dropout. In some cases, teams advance ineligible patients too far before disqualifying them, leading to repeated decisions and additional work. Over time, these issues slow screening and raise failure rates.

These problems break momentum. Teams miss enrollment targets, face greater pressure, and incur higher costs. A minor screening issue can quickly become a trial-wide challenge that's hard to fix once delays set in.



In modern trials, screening failures signal broader operational risks that can threaten overall success.



The Cost of Screening Inefficiencies

Each screening failure costs sponsors an average of \$1,200. Overlooked screening inefficiencies quickly extend timelines and inflate costs.

Prolonged screening requires additional site resources, repeated outreach, and extended recruitment efforts. Every extra day spent evaluating eligibility or re-engaging candidates increases cost with limited return.

High screen-failure rates also undermine data quality. They introduce bias, reduce diversity, and complicate analysis. Inconsistent or poorly documented decisions increase regulatory risk and slow validation.

Inefficient screening also damages patient trust. Delayed responses, unclear messaging, and repeated requests discourage participation. Most patients who disengage do not return, forcing teams to restart recruitment and extend timelines.

Speed, accuracy, and patient experience are inseparable. Screening inefficiencies generate hidden costs and erode confidence on all sides.

A Precision Screening Framework for Better Patient Outcomes

Precision screening gets the right patients into trials sooner and more consistently, improving matching, adherence, and retention.

1: Match Patients to the Protocol Early

- Apply inclusion and exclusion criteria at the first interaction.
- Review the medical history and documents immediately.
- Spot disqualifying factors immediately.

Early matching prevents late-stage exclusions, reduces screen failures, and avoids patient frustration.

2: Apply Eligibility Criteria Consistently

- Use clear, protocol-specific guidelines.
- Standardize the interpretation of criteria across sites and teams.
- Document decisions on complex or borderline cases.

Consistency improves data quality, reduces deviations, and ensures fair, accurate screening.

3: Keep Screening Simple and Structured

- Follow clear screening steps and handoffs.
- Remove duplicate questions and extra data collection.
- Escalate complex cases right away.

Structured processes reduce delays and lower the risk of patient drop-off due to long waits.

4: Communicate Clearly With Patients

- Explain eligibility and next steps clearly.
- Set expectations at the start.
- Follow up quickly and consistently.

Clear communication keeps patients engaged and compliant throughout the process.

5: Track Decisions and Monitor Quality

- Document screening outcomes and reasons.
- Monitor screen-failure trends.
- Perform regular quality checks.

Clear documentation ensures compliance, strengthens data integrity, and helps teams spot and fix issues early.

6: Design Screening to Scale

- Prepare teams to handle changing volumes.
- Keep processes consistent across sites and regions.
- Scale support and maintain accuracy.

Scalable screening sustains enrollment momentum and improves long-term outcomes.

By following these steps, teams can streamline screening, boost patient engagement, and set the stage for better results in every clinical trial.

Redefining Trial Readiness

The New Screening Standard: Technology-Enabled, Human-Driven

Technology has reshaped screening. AI-based pre-screening, digital questionnaires, and integrated data systems allow teams to process patient information faster and more consistently. These tools surface eligible candidates earlier and reduce manual workloads.

Technology alone, however, is not sufficient. Clinical judgment, context, and patient interaction remain essential. Skilled professionals must review automated outputs, clarify findings, and communicate decisions to patients clearly.

The new standard combines speed with oversight. Technology accelerates data processing, while human support ensures accuracy, compliance, and trust. Together, they enable scalable screening without compromising patient experience.

Modern trials achieve precision by empowering people with the right tools, not replacing them.

Outsourcing: A Structural Advantage in Modern Clinical Trials

Outsourcing screening strengthens today's complex trials. Sponsors and Contract Research Organizations (CROs), which oversee trial operations, rely on specialized partners to simplify recruitment and keep studies on track.

Key advantages include:

- Managing complexity from shifting volumes, evolving criteria, and compressed timelines.
- Deploying dedicated teams that scale efficiently while maintaining quality.
- Applying consistent workflows and sustained patient follow-up without overburdening internal staff.
- Adapting quickly to protocol changes, site expansion, or regional needs.
- Maintaining oversight through defined governance, quality controls, and performance reporting.
- Ensuring transparent, traceable, and compliant screening decisions.

Outsourcing is not a temporary fix. It is a strategic approach that enables teams to operate with greater precision, resilience, and confidence.



Select VoiceCom: Powering Precision Screening at Scale

Clinical trials must move faster without sacrificing quality. The right outsourcing partner makes a huge difference. [Select VoiceCom \(SVC\)](#) helps sponsors and CROs with structured, scalable screening operations designed for today's complex trials.

SVC's trained professionals prioritize accuracy, compliance, and patient experience. Team members manage high screening volumes, apply criteria consistently, and communicate clearly with participants. They advance qualified patients quickly and identify ineligible candidates early, reducing rework and protecting timelines.

Built for regulated environments, Select VoiceCom emphasizes transparency and control. Standardized workflows, quality monitoring, and real-time reporting give sponsors and CROs complete visibility across sites and studies. This structure supports compliance and enables rapid adjustment as trial needs evolve.

With experienced professionals and scalable infrastructure, SVC turns screening into a strategic advantage. Sponsors achieve faster qualification, stronger patient engagement, and better retention, laying the foundation for more successful trials.



Glossary

Precision Screening

A structured approach to screening that improves speed and accuracy by applying eligibility criteria consistently, documenting decisions clearly, and reducing preventable screen failures.

Screen Failure

A screening outcome where a candidate does not meet eligibility requirements after initial interest, often due to criteria mismatches, incomplete documentation, or late-stage disqualification.

Pre-Screening

An early step in filtering candidates with high-level criteria, saving teams' time and resources for stronger prospects.

Eligibility Criteria

Trial-defined requirements are used to determine if a candidate may safely and correctly join a clinical trial.

Protocol Deviation

A departure from the approved trial protocol can compromise data integrity, increase compliance risk, and delay timelines.

Patient Drop-Off

Losing potential participants during recruitment or screening due to delays, unclear communication, burdensome steps, or inconsistent follow-up.

Quality Monitoring

Ongoing checks for screening accuracy, documentation, timely follow-up, and compliance to ensure steady team and site performance.

Service Level Agreement (SLA)

A formal agreement that defines expected performance standards, such as response times, follow-up frequency, and documentation accuracy, between sponsors/CROs and an outsourcing partner.

Scalable Screening Operations

A model designed to scale staff, coverage, and workflows quickly while keeping quality and compliance.

Audit-Ready Documentation

Clear, trackable records supporting eligibility decisions, oversight, compliance, and regulatory reviews.



Resources

Welcome

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Why Clinical Trials Slow Down Before Enrollment

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Outsourcing as a Strategic Response to Screening Challenges

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The Cost of Screening Inefficiencies

Source:

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CONTACT US

Precision screening accelerates recruitment, reduces costly errors, and increases the rate of eligible participants. However, many trials lack practical tools to realize these gains without disrupting internal teams.

Select VoiceCom enables CROs and sponsors to achieve faster, more reliable enrollment consistently. Our [on-site, privacy-compliant teams](#) remove language, coordination, and timing obstacles, so trials proceed without delay.

We remove screening burdens, freeing your teams to focus on critical, high-impact trial work.

Turning Screening Readiness into Trial Progress

Even the best screening plans fail without strong execution. Missed follow-ups, poor documentation, and slow eligibility decisions quietly hurt enrollment.

Select VoiceCom ensures every screening process translates into actual enrollments. Our support, from outreach to scheduling, means reliability, transparent communication, and steady recruitment across sites and phases.

This approach helps trials turn interest into enrollment, avoid disruptions, and stay in control, even under pressure.

Let's Connect

If your trial teams need stronger screening execution without extra burden, reach out today.

Contact our Sales Team at



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**Accelerate enrollment with screening built to
drive real results.**

