

How an ALK-positive patient can use AI effectively

AI is most useful for **searching**, **summarising**, and **filtering** clinical-trial information. It cannot replace medical advice, but it can dramatically reduce the time and effort needed to find relevant trials.

1. Use AI to search authoritative UK trial databases

Ask an AI system to search and summarise results from:

- **NIHR Be Part of Research** (UK's main public-facing trial portal)
- **ISRCTN Registry** (UK-based international trial registry)
- **ClinicalTrials.gov** (includes all UK-listed ALK trials)
- **EU Clinical Trials Register** (for UK-relevant EU studies still active)

You can instruct AI to run targeted queries such as:

“Find UK-based clinical trials recruiting ALK-positive NSCLC patients.”

AI can then summarise each trial's:

- Purpose
- Phase
- Locations
- Eligibility criteria
- Contact details
- Whether ALK-positive patients are explicitly included

This reduces the manual burden of checking multiple registries.

2. Use AI to filter for ALK-specific relevance

Many lung cancer trials do **not** explicitly mention ALK rearrangements. AI can help by:

- Extracting molecular-eligibility criteria from long protocol descriptions
- Flagging trials that include “ALK”, “tyrosine kinase inhibitor”, “targeted therapy”, “fusion oncogene”, or specific drugs (lorlatinib, brigatinib, alectinib)
- Distinguishing between trials for *all* NSCLC vs. those for *ALK-positive* NSCLC

This is especially helpful because trial descriptions often bury molecular criteria deep in the text.

3. Use AI to monitor new UK trial openings

AI can be used to:

- Set up automated periodic searches
- Summarise new trials added to registries
- Track updates to existing trials (e.g., new sites opening, recruitment status changes)

This is valuable because ALK-specific trials are relatively rare and may open or close quickly.

4. Use AI to interpret eligibility criteria

Eligibility criteria can be complex (e.g., prior TKI exposure, brain metastases, ECOG status). AI can:

- Translate criteria into plain English
- Highlight potential inclusion/exclusion issues
- Compare your clinical history (if you choose to provide it) with trial requirements
- Generate questions to discuss with your oncologist

This helps patients prepare for conversations with clinical teams.

5. Use AI to identify UK trial sites and referral pathways

AI can summarise:

- Which UK hospitals are running each trial
- Whether they accept external referrals
- Contact details for trial coordinators
- Whether the trial allows remote screening or cross-trust referrals

This is particularly useful for patients outside major centres.

6. Use AI to compare trials side-by-side

AI can produce structured comparisons showing:

- Trial phase
- Drug(s) involved
- Prior-therapy requirements
- Travel burden
- Frequency of visits
- Potential risks and benefits (summarised from protocol text)

This helps patients and clinicians decide which trials are worth pursuing.

7. Use AI to check for safety, scientific credibility, and relevance

AI can help verify:

- Whether a trial is genuinely registered
- Whether the sponsor is reputable
- Whether the trial is interventional or observational
- Whether the trial aligns with current ALK-positive treatment standards

This reduces the risk of misinformation.

Evidence context

Recent research highlights the growing role of AI in lung-cancer decision-making and trial-related tasks, including analysing molecular data and supporting clinical decisions. AI is increasingly used to process complex oncology information and improve patient-specific recommendations.

What you can do next

AI can generate a **personalised AI-ready search prompt** that you can paste into any AI system to automatically scan all UK trial registries for ALK-positive NSCLC.

AI can run a **UK clinical-trial search for ALK-positive NSCLC** and summarise the results for you.