

AGILE: Coronavirus Drug Testing Platform

The **AGILE Coronavirus Drug Testing Initiative** is a new approach designed for pandemic drug testing. Doctors and scientists working together in clinical trials at Liverpool, Southampton and Lancaster have developed a new, fast and flexible type of study – a world first for infectious diseases.

How does a drug get from the lab to patients?

To bring a drug to patients, it usually has to undergo an extensive process of clinical trials first. This process involves sequential testing in the lab, on animals, with healthy volunteers, and with patients who are ill – it can take years before a drug is ready to be prescribed to patients.

Conventional testing across three phases is not fast enough to keep up with a rapidly spreading new disease, like COVID-19.

Phase 1 Studies	Phase 2 Studies	Phase 3 Studies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A few dozen people • In healthy volunteers • Test only for safety • Lasting several months, but less than a year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to several hundred people • Continues to measure safety, but tests efficacy • Lasting several months, up to two years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to several thousand people • Continues to measure both safety and efficacy • Lasting one to two years

Why is AGILE faster?

The AGILE Coronavirus Drug Testing Initiative uses a design called a **Bayesian Adaptive Trial Platform**.

- A Bayesian trial platform allows us to test multiple drugs in parallel, and to remove or add treatments faster than ever before, based on results of safety and efficacy. We can also use smaller numbers of patients to reach concrete conclusions about safety and efficacy.
- It is an innovative and comprehensive statistical model for clinical trials, which allows scientists to make rapid decisions about whether the development of a drug should continue or be stopped.

Bridging the gap



The AGILE platform bridges the gap between pre-clinical drug discovery and large-scale testing, rapidly identifying drugs that have the best chance of success in large clinical trials. It borrows from processes that are often used in oncology and rare diseases and combines these with learnings from innovative and comprehensive statistical models. AGILE tests safety and efficacy concurrently in patients who have been infected with coronavirus, using constantly monitored data and statistics to continue only with the safest and most effective drugs.

With AGILE, we hope to present a viable drug candidate for COVID-19 in months rather than years.

For further information on AGILE, please visit agiletrial.net.