UC San Diego Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute (ACTRI) accelerates the delivery of new and more effective treatments from the laboratory to the patient’s bedside.

Our mission is to provide research resources, training, and collaboration opportunities for ACTRI scientists, health care providers, and the community.
Our vision is to speed the delivery of treatment and cures to patients.

— Gary S. Firestein, MD, ACTRI Director

The phase 1 clinical trials unit at UC San Diego Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute (ACTRI) Center for Clinical Research is a dedicated space for pharmacokinetic, biomarker and safety studies. In phase I studies, researchers test a new drug or treatment in a small group of people for the first time to evaluate its safety, determine a safe dosage range, and identify side effects. The ACTRI launched the phase I unit to meet an increasing demand for first-in-human and first-in-disease studies.

It recently expanded to incorporate omics-based biomarkers in very early clinical trials, including the infrastructure to collect, process, and analyze biosamples using cutting edge omics and biomarker tools.

Research subjects are identified through disease-specific registries, and the unit can perform 24-hour and weekend pharmacokinetic studies, as well as support sample acquisition and processing at all hours.

The unit includes a nurse administrator and project manager to enable the quick and efficient launch and management of clinical trials.