

Drug and Biologic Preclinical and Clinical Trial Definitions

Phase	Population	- Number of Subjects Required*	Purpose
Pre-clinical	Highly controlled (GLP) studies in animals	Hundreds to Thousands	Safety, toxicity, effectiveness. Provides evidence to FDA safe enough to try in humans
0	Healthy volunteers Exception: Cancer/AIDS etc.	10 to 15 subjects/trial	Limited exposure, short duration, with no therapeutic or diagnostic intent. Helps identify promising candidates and assess feasibility for further development. Particularly useful when developing products for serious diseases. Often referred to as Exploratory IND studies.
1	Healthy volunteers Exception: Cancer/AIDS etc.	20 to 80 subjects/trial	Safety
2	Subjects with the Illness (narrow population)	24 to 300 subjects/trial	Safety Effectiveness Dose
3	Subjects with the Illness (broad population)	250 to 3000 subjects/trial	Confirming safety and effectiveness in diverse populations
4	Subjects with the Illness; Special population (very broad population)	FDA and Sponsor negotiate	After FDA approval (Post-licensure), for safety and/or other uses

*The number of subjects in a clinical trial varies greatly by the type of product and FDA input/feedback

Biomedical Technology Readiness Levels

D – Pharmaceutical (Drugs); B/V- Pharmaceutical (biologics, Vaccines); Same for All

System Test, Launch & Operations	TRL 9	Post marketing studies/surveillance. Post-marketing studies may be required.
System/Subsystem Development	TRL 8	Phase 3 clinical trials completed. D- Approval of New Drug Application (NDA) for Drugs by Center for Drug Evaluation & Research (CDER). B/V-Approval of the Biologics License Application (BLA) by Center for Biologics Evaluation & Research (CBER)
Technology Demonstration	TRL 7	Phase 2 clinical trials completed. Phase 3 clinical study plan approved.
Technology Development	TRL 6	Phase 1 clinical trials completed, data support proceeding to Phase 2 clinical trials. IND application prepared and submitted.
Research to Prove Feasibility	TRL 5	Preclinical studies, including GLP animal safety & toxicity, sufficient to support IND applications.
Basic Technology Research	TRL 4	PoC and safety of candidate drug formulations or biologic/vaccine constructs are demonstrated in defined laboratory/animal model(s).
	TRL 3	Hypothesis testing and initial proof-of-concept (PoC) demonstrated in limited number of <i>in vitro</i> and <i>in vivo</i> models.
	TRL 2	Research ideas and protocols developed. Hypothesis(es) generated.
	TRL 1	Maintain scientific awareness; tech watch. Scientific literature reviews and market surveys initiated and assessed.

Biomedical Technology Readiness Levels

MD – Medical Devices

System Test, Launch & Operations	TRL 9	Post marketing studies/surveillance. Post-marketing studies may be required.
System/Subsystem Development	TRL 8	CDRH approval of Premarket Approval (PMA), or as applicable, 510(k)
	TRL 7	Class III clinical end points and test plans are agreed upon by CDRH. For 510(k), final prototype and/or initial commercial-scale device is produced and tested in a military operational environment; info and data support preparation of 510(k).
Technology Demonstration	TRL 6	Class III device safety demonstrated, support proceeding to clinical safety and effectiveness trials. For 510(k), info and data support production of final prototype and final testing in a military operational environment.
Technology Development	TRL 5	Investigational Device Exemption (IDE) review by CDRH results in determination that investigation may begin. For 510(k), prelim findings suggest the device will be substantially equivalent to a predicate device.
	TRL 4	PoC and safety of candidate devices/systems are demonstrated in defined laboratory / animal model(s).
Research to Prove Feasibility	TRL 3	Hypothesis testing and initial proof-of-concept (PoC) demonstrated in limited number of laboratory models.
Basic Technology Research	TRL 2	Hypothesis(es) generated. Research ideas and protocols developed.
	TRL 1	Maintain scientific awareness; tech watch. Scientific literature reviews and market surveys initiated and assessed.

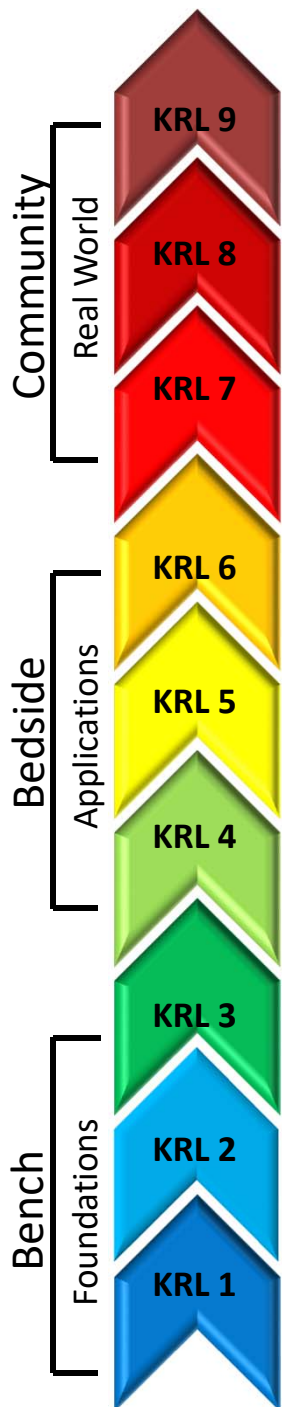
Biomedical Technology Readiness Levels

Medical IM/IT & Medical Informatics

System Test, launch & Operations	TRL 9	Product successfully used in military mission as part of Initial Operational Test and Evaluation (IOT&E). Logistical Demonstration successfully conducted.
System/Subsystem Development	TRL 8	Development Test & Evaluation (DT&E) of the HW/SW system in its intended environment. Demonstrated it meets design specifications. Validated in several operational environments.
	TRL 7	System is operationally integrated and tested with target applications in operational environment with end users.
Technology Demonstration	TRL 6	System tested with interfaces & support systems in relevant or simulated operational environment. Configuration Management Approach Developed.
Technology Development	TRL 5	Models are implemented into data/knowledge system & tested in lab environment. Actual interfaces specified.
	TRL 4	Prototype produced. HW/SW pieces work together. Models use real data/knowledge.
Research to Prove Feasibility	TRL 3	Data and knowledge representation schema modeled.
Basic Technology Research	TRL 2	System concepts documented. Schema defined. Data and knowledge representation issues defined.
	TRL 1	Identified potential medical solution to mission need. Defined data & knowledge representation Issues.

Step 1: Determine the Knowledge Product (KP):

Approved for USAMRMC Use – April 2019



KRL7-9 ratings are given to KPs resulting from research designed to emphasize external validity (generalizability) of knowledge for use in a specified real world application context. This research often addresses a policy question, asking, “How does it compare to usual practice?” To achieve a rating of KRL7-9, the KP must be based on valid replicated KRL 4-6 research.

Examples include:

- Battlefield intervention
- Primary care screener
- Workplace prevention
- Systematic reviews of KRL 7-9 research
- Systematic reviews to inform creation of practice guidelines and study of a guideline

**KP3
Community**

KRL4-6 are given to KPs that seek to generate applied knowledge to eventually perform a non-research related function or to inform understanding of an application or tool. KRL4-6 research often asks questions such as “Can the application work under ideal research conditions?” and “(if the application can work), how does it work?” To achieve a rating of KRL 4-6, the KP must be based on valid, replicated KRL1-3 research.

Examples include:

- Applications that prevent, screen/diagnose, or treat illness
- Systematic reviews that summarize KRL4-6 research

**KP2
Bedside**

KRL1-3 provide the scientific foundation for KP development toward practical application. These KPs are the outputs of health research that seeks basic mechanisms rather than applications and tends to be theoretical or conceptual, often (but not always) comprising laboratory, descriptive, or exploratory studies.

Examples include:

- Animal research
- Non-Clinical laboratory research
- Descriptive epidemiology
- Systematic reviews of KRL1-3 research

**KP1
Bench**

Step 2: Determine the Knowledge Readiness Level (KRL)

