**WHAT IS IT?**

**Precision medicine** is an emerging approach for disease prevention and treatment that takes into account people’s individual variations in genes, environment, and lifestyle. The Precision Medicine Initiative® will generate the scientific evidence needed to move the concept of precision medicine into clinical practice.

**WHY NOW?**

The time is right because of:

- Sequencing of the human genome
- Improved technologies for biomedical analysis
- New tools for using large datasets

**NEAR-TERM GOALS**

Intensity efforts to apply precision medicine to cancer.

- Innovative clinical trials of targeted drugs for adult, pediatric cancers
- Use of combination therapies
- Knowledge to overcome drug resistance

**LONGER-TERM GOALS**

Create a research cohort of > 1 million American volunteers who will share genetic data, biological samples, and diet/lifestyle information, all linked to their electronic health records if they choose.

- Pioneer a new model for doing science that emphasizes engaged participants, responsible data sharing, and privacy protection.

Research based upon the cohort data will:

- Advance pharmacogenomics, the right drug for the right patient at the right dose
- Identify new targets for treatment and prevention
- Test whether mobile devices can encourage healthy behaviors
- Lay scientific foundation for precision medicine for many diseases

Follow the Initiative’s progress and consider volunteering for this landmark effort.

[www.nih.gov/precisionmedicine](http://www.nih.gov/precisionmedicine)