**My partial solution and how it would work**

As an individual, everyone enjoys some form of recognition. When you do something a little more special, it is always nice for it to be recognized. For a cancer patient, already having to deal with his own problems, to be proactive and enroll in a trial which might be someday part of the cure, is one of those “a little more special” things.

As such, every patient enrolled in a trial, would have their name included in a registry, from which, yearly, a Recognition Prize would be drawn at random. Yes, a lottery of sorts, with your entry price being your enrollment in a trial. Yes, a scholarship of sorts, with your proactive stance and altruism being recognized. All the trial participants have incurred extra expenses due to their illness, all of them could use a little help with these expenses, and they would all have a chance to be recognized with this prize. Whether it would be a single prize or ten prizes yearly would largely depend on the funding.

But having a chance at that prize is not enough, everyone needs to be recognized for their participation in these trials, for we know that without their involvement, there wouldn’t be any trials. On a monthly or quarterly basis, one or more prominent medical publications would print a Recognition page listing all the participants added to the registry, thanking them for their involvement and for being part of the Research Team that strives towards the ultimate goal of finding a Cure. They truly are part of the research team so why not recognize it in a way for all to see. Some participants might not want their name on that page and that’s okay, they would have the option not to be included.

The Recognition Prize, a monetary prize, would come from a single foundation if they so chose, or a fund where a few or many foundations, companies, organizations would have contributed their share. A bigger fund would allow for a bigger yearly Recognition Prize or Prizes.

I am not part of the health industry at all and do not have the knowledge necessary to assess some of the implementation procedures for such a proposition but I saw the opportunity to have the idea out there where it might spark some interest.