Background: The participants in clinical trials as well as the researchers leading these establish a close link between clinical trial and quality cares. What apprehension do they have of the concept of "quality of care"? This is the question this study has attempted to answer by presenting the criteria defining for them quality cares in the context of clinical research.

Methods: The data were collected from the participants involved in these clinical trials as well as from the health workers (research teams and other health workers) using the techniques of the qualitative approach. 70 in-depth interviews were so conducted. Direct observations of the participant taking care activities were also made in both health districts. The data were recorded, transcribed and then analyzed on the thematic content basis.

Results: For the health agents interviewed, the clinical trials are conducted in optimal conditions which highly contribute to ensure a good quality to the cares. To them, in the process of the trial implementation, evidence of some availability of qualified human resources, quality medico technical equipment, as well as a good clinical practice strict respect by the researchers are shown.

As for the participants, the quality of care in clinical trials meets specific criteria. To them, the quality cares delivered by the research team is materialized by tests in laboratory before any treatment proposal, the promptness in taking care of any discomfort as well as the regular and permanent follow-up of the patient until recovery of his health. Blood sampling for laboratory examinations is highly appreciated and mentioned by our respondents as the main indicator of the quality of cares provided by the research teams.

Conclusion: The quality cares, according to the criteria the participants and the health workers assigned to it, is intrinsically linked to clinical trials.