Since Bernoulli trials are independent from each other, we can consider that

 $P(\text{having k trials until r successes}) = P(\text{having k-1 trials until r-1 success}) \cdot P(\text{having 1 success trial}).$

Considering that P(having k-1trials until r-1 success) meets binomial distribution, we can calculate that

P(having k – 1trials until r – 1 success) =
$$\binom{k-1}{r-1} p^{r-1} (1-p)^{k-r}$$
.

Therefore,

$$P(\text{having k trials until r successes}) = \binom{k-1}{r-1} p^{r-1} (1-p)^{k-r} \cdot p = \binom{k-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^{k-r}.$$

Considering the negative binomial distribution can be seen as a combination of geometric distribution repeated for r times, and assuming that in the *i*th Bernoulli trial, X_i times of trials are needed to achieve the first success, we know that

$$X = \sum_{i=1}^{r} X_i.$$

Thus,

$$E(X) = E(\sum_{i=1}^{r} X_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{r} E(X_i),$$

and

$$Var(X) = Var(\sum_{i=1}^{r} X_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{r} E(X_i).$$

From the conclusions about the geometric distribution that, knowing that

$$E(X_i) = \frac{1}{p},$$

and

$$Var(X_i) = \frac{1-p}{p^2}.$$

Hence, the expectation and standard variance of the negative binomial distribution are:

$$E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^{r} E(Xi) = r \cdot \frac{1}{p} = \frac{r}{p},$$

and

$$Var(X) = \sum_{i=1}^{r} E(X_i) = r \cdot \frac{1-p}{p^2} = \frac{r(1-p)}{p^2}.$$