

Who we are?

The 2CA-Braga is a Clinical Research Centre, located in the City of Braga, Portugal. It is a unique combination between University of Minho (UM) and Hospital de Braga (HB), with a focus on research, clinical care, education and training. The 2CA-Braga is closely connected with the Life and Health Sciences Research Institute (ICVS-3Bs) and School of Health Sciences within (ECS) the University of Minho. Will strengthen and lead this non-profit partnership considering the recognised capabilities in bioscience innovation and translational research of the several partners, promoting with Hospital de Braga and Hospital CUF Porto the maintenance of health and, most importantly, contributing to add quality to life through innovative breakthroughs. 2CA-Braga is now within four years of life and this Newsletter aims to provide some insight on the clinical research centre activities within this period along with additio-

What we do?

Since the first newsletter issued, in October 2014, the 2CA-Braga has been involved in many activities:

31 Oct 2014 – “1as Jornadas de Investigação Clínica e Inovação”

This Clinical Research Summit took place at Hospital de Braga. It was a full morning with round table discussions and some workshops fully dedicated to clinical research. Joined over 100 invitees between members of Academia/ University of Minho, Pharmaceutical Industry, Medical and other Hospital Health Care Staff along with Clinical Research professionals.



Were made questions to the participants of the Sessions and the 2CA-Braga event was considered “*DIFFERENTIATOR, Research in Health, could be one of the areas of greater competitiveness and value creation in Portugal (...). Events like this demonstrate the commitment and willingness of the Academic Clinical Center (2CA - Braga) to identify potential areas for improvement in order to establish synergistic and effective relationships in a translational manner with Academia the Hospital and the Pharmaceutical Industry*”.

(Dr. Eduardo Ribeiro, AbbVie)

Promoting the “*Empowerment for the sites. Less dependent, more proactive*”.

(Dr. Maria Vale, Quintiles CRA)

And Dr. Eduardo Ribeiro added “*The professionalism and the willingness of 2CA-Braga to be more effective and create research opportunities; The need of more events to share experiences and needs from Hospital, Academia and Pharma Industry in order to find more “win-win-win” opportunities increase research in Portugal, to facilitate the access to innovation, and improve skills, retention and motivation of health workers and investigators, likely to generate better health outcomes!*”

31-jan-2015 – “2CA-Braga Grant”

For the second year 2CA-Braga promoted Clinical Research and Scientific initiatives. This year there were 13 applications and the winners were:

- Ana João Rodrigues (ICVS), Pedro Leão (ICVS/HB), Pedro Morgado (ICVS/HB) & Cristina Nogueira-Silva (ICVS/HB) – “*Long Term Impact of Prenatal Glucocorticoid Exposure*” - Clinical study to study the effect of corticosteroids during pregnancy involving Gynaecology Department from Hospital Braga and ICVS.

- Pedro Morgado (ICVS/HB) – “*Treating Refractory Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Using Real-Time Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging Neurofeedback*” - Clinical study of Fmri in obsessive-compulsive patients, involving the Psychiatry Department of Hospital Braga and ICVS.

- Ana Sofia Silva (FAUP (Faculty of Architecture of Porto University) – “*Architecture and Health: the architectonic environment’s impact in hospital’s daily life*” – intending to study the rooms/spaces for patients consultation and its direct impact in the patients well-being. This study from the Faculty of Architecture of Porto involves Medical Team from Hospital Braga and School of Health Sciences.

09 to 13-mar-2015 – “Clinical Research Week”

The 2CA-Braga will perform an intensive training week on clinical research standards, national and international regulations and legislation, clinical trials implementation, biostatistics and methodology. This intensive training week is dedicated to Internal Medicine Residents from Hospital de Braga. After the initial theoretical training the internal medicine residents will start a 6 month internship within 2CA-Braga dedicated to clinical research and taking part on activities currently ongoing. With this pilot initiative Hospital de Braga and 2CA-Braga aim to increase the young medical team community interest in clinical research and set basis for previous real life experience and knowledge of the requirements and standards when planning owned initiated clinical projects.

20-mar-2015 – “2CA-Braga Day”

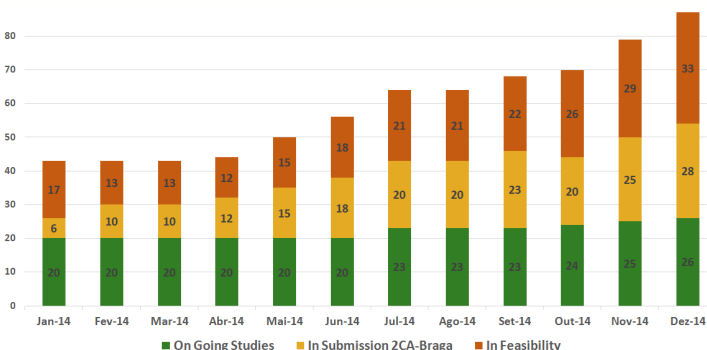
For the 3rd year 2CA-Braga will be commemorating its Day. It will be a morning dedicated to 2014 operating review, current Clinical Research Dynamic, projects, patients, associated investigators and main achievements. During the event there will also be the symbolic award of the 2CA-Braga Grants winners of 2014.

The 2CA-Braga Day will be an open commemoration so all professionals, colleagues and friends will be invited to attend.

Our Figures

Since Jan 2014, the No. of Clinical Studies increased consistently from 20 to 27. The No of studies in Start-up Phase increased over 4 times (25 by Jan 2015) and. additional 35 studies are currently under feasibility assessment with positive expectations of having 2CA Braga being selected in many of them. By the end of 2015, 2CA-Braga expects to have over 60 studies ongoing.

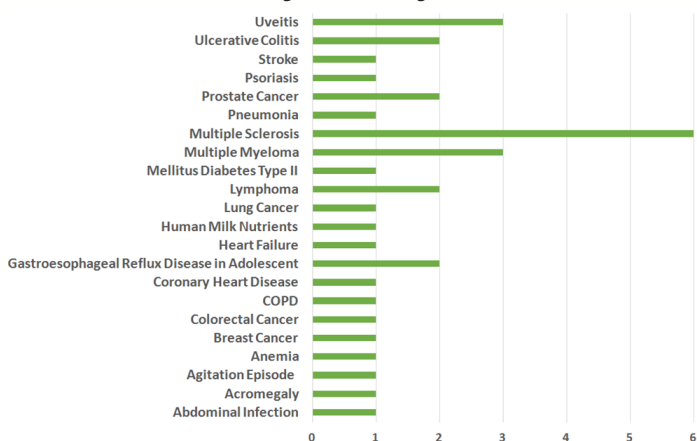
Overall Clinical Studies Status



The distribution of the ongoing clinical studies corresponds to 18 clinical trials (3PhII, 13 PhIII and 3 PhIV) and 8 observational studies.

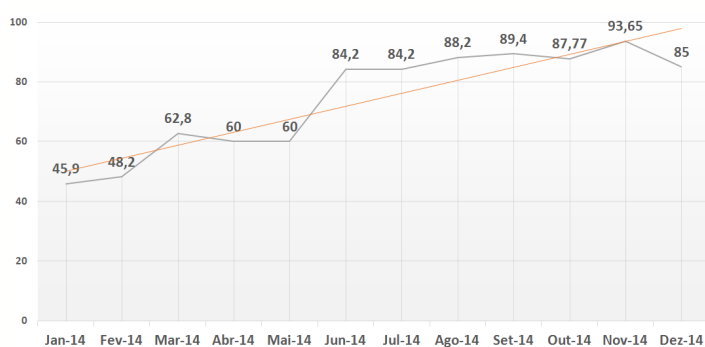
In 2014 were ongoing 32 clinical studies in different pathologies.

Pathologies in On Going Studies



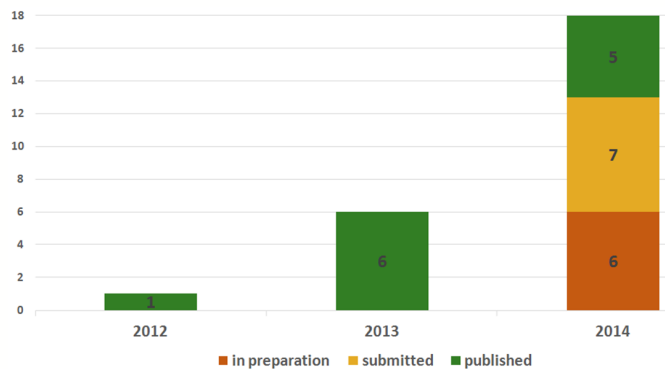
Being recruitment predictability one of the most important aspects of a clinical study, the graph below illustrates the 2CA-Braga performance up to Feb2015, being able to include 90.49% of the overall patients' commitment considering all ongoing studies.

% of Recruitment in Ongoing Studies



As Academic Clinical Research Centre, scientific publications are very important outputs of the site in research & development field. The graph below shows the increase in scientific publications from 1 in 2012 to 6 in 2013. In 2014 a total of 18 scientific articles have been planned, being 5 published, 7 submitted and 6 under preparation.

Scientific Publications status



2CA-Braga aims to continue to increase the work in this area as well showing that the innovation that characterizes the different 2CA-braga partners and the "projects incubator" environment has results to share.

Our Main Achievements

- **FPI within 30 days of SIV in 63% of the Studies ongoing.** In regards to recruitment we would like to congratulate in particular the Investigators below has the main top recruiters in 2014.

	Clinical Trials	Observational Studies
1 st	Herlander Marques	João Cerqueira
2 nd	João Cerqueira	Almerinda Pereira
3 rd	Catarina Portela	António Gaspar

Thank you for your support and work! We are counting on you to continue developing 2CA-Braga.

- **Patient Retention Rate was 99% in 2014** showing that the attention and care that 2CA-Braga staff dedicates to the patients is key in the overall clinical research environment and results.

-The **installation of the Laminar Flow Chamber was completed** and is already in use at Hospital Braga.

What next?

Stay connected with 2 CA Braga.

We promote clinical and translational research aligned with the needs of the surrounding community in the provision of healthcare and research of excellence. With dedicated Medical and Clinical Research Staff, High Quality Equipment, Technology & centred in the patients and their needs we are the appropriate partner to host your clinical studies.

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