

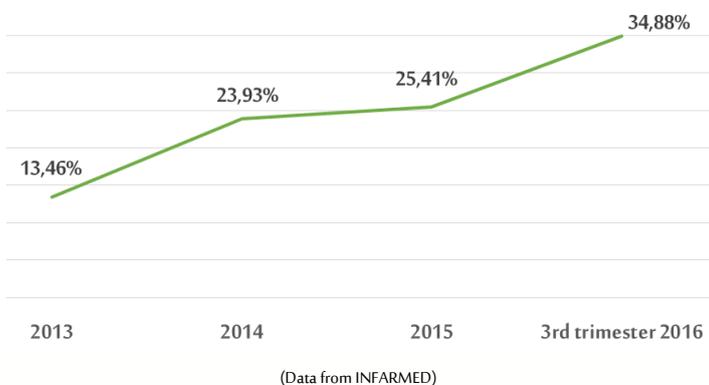
Our Research Projects – This edition highlights

This Newsletter edition will give you an overview of our numbers, comparing our actual status in terms of new studies' submission with other Portuguese clinical sites. The feedback of our principal stakeholders will also be shared. Thank you to all who contributed for this assessment as it will surely contribute for our continuous improvement as partners for research. Hope you enjoy the reading!

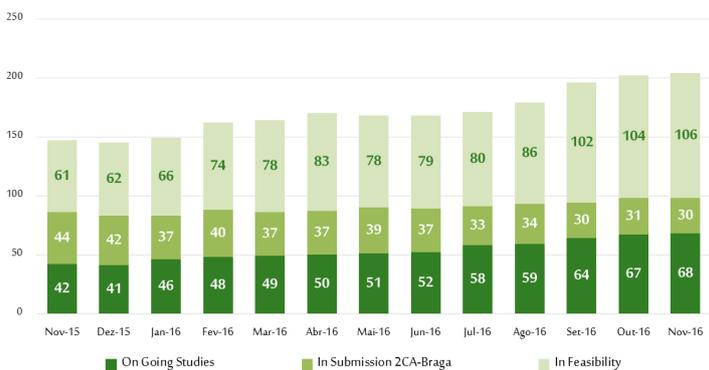
Our Numbers

Looking into the overall number of studies submitted in Portugal in the last 3 years *versus* the number of studies allocated to ZCA-Braga, we can acknowledge the growth in terms of overall percentage of these studies that are allocated and managed by us. This is in fact a direct result of our work and commitment to manage studies with high quality while meeting our KPIs (recruitment and retention) but also on capturing new studies and partners.

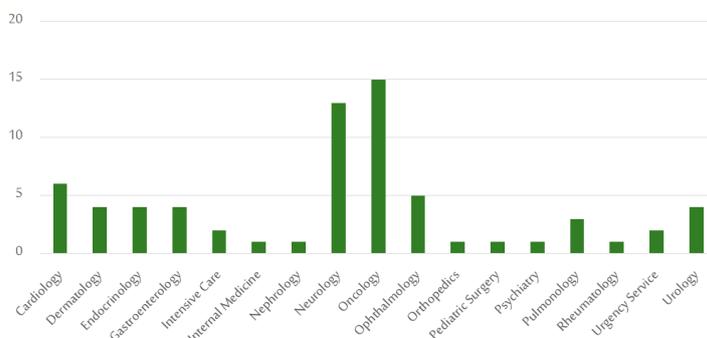
Percentage of new submissions to ZCA-Braga vs. overall studies submitted in Portugal



As of October-2016, ZCA-Braga is managing a total of 204 commercially sponsored clinical studies. From these 68 are ongoing studies, 30 are on submission process and 106 in feasibility phase (graphic below).



It's important to note that, among the 68 Commercial Initiative Studies running in the ZCA-Braga, the majority of them are in the fields of Neurology, Oncology and Cardiology. On the other hand there are new areas participate in Commercial Studies as Psychiatry, Orthopedics and Rheumatology (figure below).



III Clinical Research & Innovation Journeys

In 23 October the ZCA-Braga hosted the III Clinical Research & Innovation Journeys took place at Hospital de Braga.

It was a full morning with round table discussions fully dedicated to medical device with a very valuable contribution of the Director of Health Products of INFARMED, the Director of Health Cluster Portugal, the Director of Medtronic Portugal and the CEO of PeekMed regarding the discussion of promoting clinical research in Portugal.

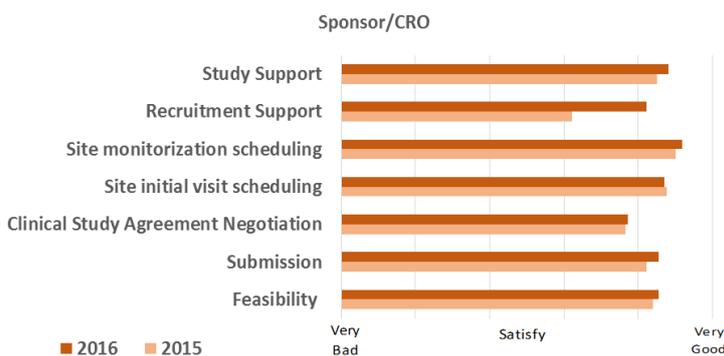
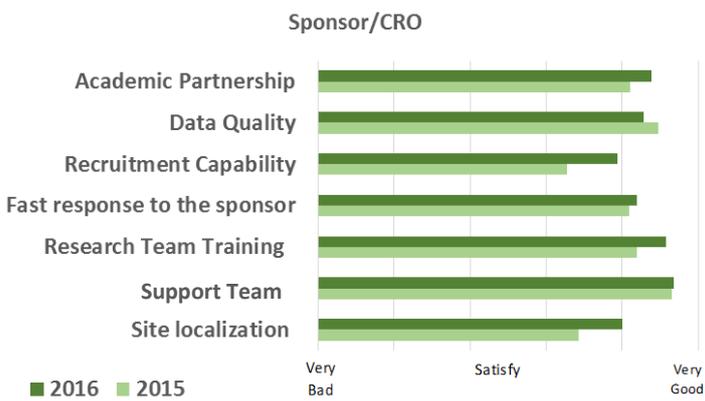
Joined over 150 invitees between members of Academia/ University of Minho, Pharmaceutical Industry, Medical and other Hospital Health Care Staff along with Clinical Research professionals.



Time for feedback

In 2016 we conducted a survey to assess feedback from several stakeholders, including sponsor/CRO, research teams and participants.

Regarding sponsor/CRO and research teams, a set of questions was made to assess if there were any improvements regarding support on several stages of the projects and other important indicators of organization and quality between the years of 2015 and 2016. It was also noted a global improvement in almost all assessed areas (graphics below).



This improvement was noted in the majority of items being the top 3, to the Sponsor/CRO, is the support team (study coordinator; study nurse...), the research team training and the academic partnership. To the research team members is the support team (study coordinator; study nurse...), the impact on site location for study and research team training.

The main acknowledged areas of improvement, to the research team members, were the support provided on recruitment including overall recruitment, clinical study agreement negotiation and feasibility/submission process. To the Sponsor/CRO were the recruitment support.

It is also worth mentioning some of the comments received, by the investigators, on what regards to the 2CA-Braga performance is "The 2CA-Braga team coordinates, supports and manage deadlines and procedures in an exemplary and faultless" and "...able to keep the motivation to keep approaching participants in the overall studies conducted in the institution".

For the research participants, assessed in almost areas is "very good" specifically in the performance of the doctor/investigator, the study coordinator and the study nurse. It should be noted that the question "would you recommend family members or friends to participate in clinical trials?" all the participants answered affirmative.

What next?

2CA-Braga funding of clinical research projects

It is a pleasure to announce that applications are now open for clinical research grants on our website www.ccabraga.org. On this webpage you can find the main requirements along with additional information and forms to be completed to submit your application.

Phase I platform for enrolment of participants to go live

In order to prepare our phase I clinical trials unit, a database for recruitment of participants was developed, submitted and approved by our national data protection agency (CNPD). This database will be soon available on our website. For more information, please check our website www.ccabraga.org or contact us through 2ca@ccabraga.org.

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