

## 2017 Projects and Events – This edition highlights

This quarter edition will give you an overview of our numbers, both in terms of growth since our foundation in 2012 and an update on last year's results. Additionally, events of the past few months will be presented along with a glance of what is coming for the upcoming months of 2017. Thanks to all who contributed for the success of our projects and events and to the continuous growth towards development and expertise. Hope you enjoy the reading!

### 2CA - Braga Day



Our 2CA-Braga day event occurred on March 10th, in the Braga's hospital auditorium. We counted with the presence of diversified teams from Hospital de Braga and University of Minho (Medical School (EM) and Life and Health Sciences Research Institute (ICVS)). During this event, the 2015 grants clinical research projects were presented. This session ended with an award moment in which grants were given to the 3 responsible for coordinating the 2016 clinical research projects:

**Fernanda Marques** (EM and ICVS) – *“Exploring astrocytic proteins as novel biomarkers of Multiple Sclerosis – ASTROMS”*

**Agostinho Carvalho** (EM and ICVS) – *“PTX3-mediated innate regulation of inflammation in sarcoidosis – GENSARC”*

**Patricio Costa** (EM and ICVS) – *“The neural correlates of political decision-making: an fMRI-based approach – NEURO POLITICS”*

During this event we also had the opportunity to receive some feedback by Investigators regarding the 2CA-Braga Team performance: *“The 2CA-Braga team coordinates, supports and manage deadlines and procedures in an exemplary and faultless”*. It's rewarding to know that our effort and commitment are perceived by our peers!

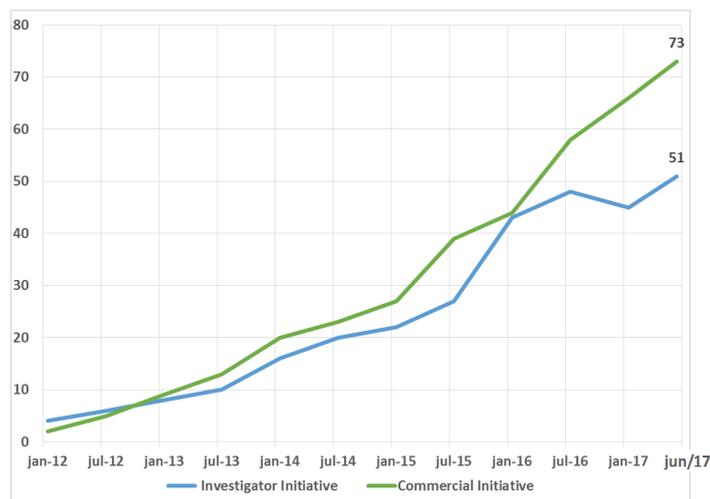
### Our Main Numbers

Research in the health domains is in constant evolution. The rhythm of development of news drugs and treatments is steadily growing, which contributes to an increase in the number of clinical trials submitted to 2CA-Braga. Such an expansion instigate us to continuously do better, hoping to promote advances in healthcare!

Looking into the past five and a half years, it is rewarding to see that we have been steadily growing simultaneously in terms of commercial initiative and investigator driven studies being managed by us. Currently we have a total of 124 clinical studies

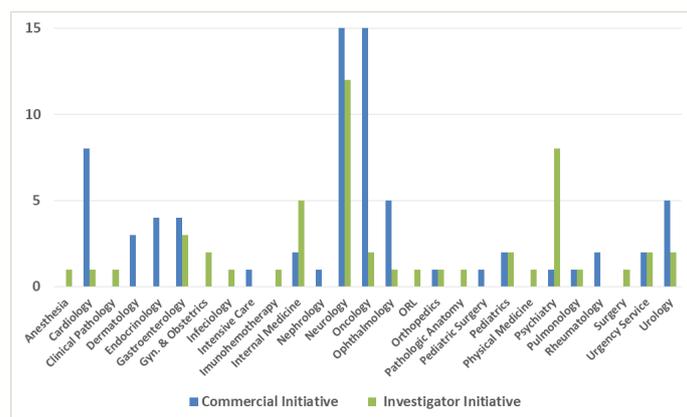
ongoing (73 commercial initiative studies and 51 investigator initiative studies) with 403 subjects participating in commercially studies (281 in clinical trials and 122 in observational studies).

Please see below 2CA-Braga growth since our foundation, expressed in number of studies managed:



It's important to note that, among the ongoing 124 clinical studies in the 2CA-Braga, the majority of them are in the fields of Neurology, Oncology and Cardiology (commercial initiative studies) and Neurology, Psychiatry and Internal Medicine (investigator initiative studies). On the other hand, there are new areas participating in Commercial Studies such as Gynecology and Obstetrics, Orthopedics and Rheumatology (figure below).

Overall, more than 20 different medical specialities have studies running in 2CA-Braga. This reflects the expanding nature of research in healthcare. 2CA-Braga encourages commercial and investigator initiative studies across all health domains.



One of our main key performance indicators (KPI) – recruitment rate – has been kept above its 80% target for the last 3 years. Recruitment rate is now reaching close to 89,6% - a proof of our continuous commitment to manage studies and meet overall objectives, both in terms of metrics and quality. This clearly shows the ongoing commitment of the 2CA-Braga with its mission. Successful patient engagement and recruitment is crucial when working in clinical research. Being able to ensure that recruitment efforts are met is a shared goal between 2CA-Braga Team and the Sponsors.

The following graph depicts the recruitment rate for clinical studies since 2CA -Braga foundation:



### Clinical Research Training Programme – 1<sup>st</sup> Medical Devices Edition

Last April 28<sup>th</sup>, we held the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of a clinical research training entitled “Medical Devices: from regulation to practice” in partnership with an StartupBraga. Main objective was to provide in-depth knowledge to graduates to promote and instigate the development, implementation and submission of clinical studies associated with medical devices. The main targets of this training module were clinical investigators/researchers and start-ups working on this specific area. This 1<sup>st</sup> edition of clinical research training module directed towards medical devices was a success: 12 participants attended the session and it received an overall positive global assessment, as you can see in the graph below.



## What's next? >>Upcoming events

### 8<sup>th</sup> Edition of our Clinical Research Training Program

As in previous years, next July we will conduct the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the clinical research training program which will include several modules to support training on clinical research. This edition will be specifically targeted for nurses already involved in clinical research projects or that want to deepen their knowledge on this matter.

Additional information can be found in our Education & Training tab, under “Clinical Research Training Programme” section located in our website at [www.ccabraga.org](http://www.ccabraga.org).

## 4<sup>th</sup> Clinical Research & Innovation Journeys



Keeping the tradition of previous years, the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of Clinical Research & Innovation journeys will be hosted by 2CA-Braga, next October 13<sup>th</sup>. The event will take place in the auditorium Professor Joaquim Machado of the Hospital de Braga. This 4<sup>th</sup> edition will be mainly focused on Patient Centricity. 2CA acknowledges the importance of such topic (putting the patient first!) therefore, will promote its discussion/reflection among several specialists and researchers. A brief overview of the program: the 2CA-Braga Board Vice-President, Dr. João Ferreira, will be hosting the opening ceremony; which will be followed by a roundtable discussion about Patient Centricity, moderated by Professor Nuno Sousa (2CA-Braga Board President). Then, a poster session will take place (we invite you to submit your work!), followed by a session focused in the patient’s role in the primary healthcare.

By the end of morning, the closing ceremony will be held by Professor João Cerqueira (2CA-Braga Medical Executive Director).

#### Main targets are:

- 2CA-Braga team;
- Clinical personnel from Hospital de Braga (physicians, nurses, imaging and laboratory personnel and other technicians and clinical investigators);
- Investigators from EMUM/ ICVS;
- Investigators from external sites;
- Pharmaceutical Industry;
- Contract Research Organizations (CRO);
- Any other professionals with interest on clinical research.

For more information, please check our website <http://www.ccabraga.org> or contact us through [2ca@ccabraga.org](mailto:2ca@ccabraga.org).

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