

2025



ANNUAL REPORT





SHIFA CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER

ANNUAL REPORT

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“Every study conducted today shapes the standard of care for tomorrow.”

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OUR VISION

To be a regional leader in innovative and groundbreaking clinical research, to advance medical knowledge (“Illaman Nafian”), and to improve the well-being of the community at large by fostering collaboration among researchers, clinicians, and industry partners.

OUR MISSION

To provide an unparalleled platform in the region, uniquely positioned to lead impactful, and ethical clinical research that transforms clinical practice on a global scale.

CEO's MESSAGE

As Shifa Clinical Research Center presents this year's annual report, I am reminded of the profound words from the Holy Quran:

"... And He gave you hearing, sight, and intellect that you might give thanks" (Quran 16:78). This divine exhortation to reflect and acquire knowledge underscores our shared responsibility to pursue wisdom and understanding for the benefit of humanity.

Our clinical research center embodies this timeless principle. Research is not merely an adjunct to healthcare; it is its very foundation. Through exploration and discovery, we transform challenges into opportunities, charting a course for improved patient care and groundbreaking innovations.

This year, like the previous ones, has also been marked by remarkable achievements at SCRC – advancing clinical trials, fostering collaborations, and refining methodologies—all driven by a commitment to excellence. These efforts have brought us closer to our ultimate goal. That is none other than improving lives. The dedication of our researchers, clinicians, and staff exemplifies the spirit of inquiry that Islam so profoundly emphasizes.

Throughout history, healthcare has always functioned at the crossroads of tradition and transformation. Modern medicine draws from centuries of accumulated knowledge while embracing the unprecedented opportunities presented by technology and data. In this dynamic landscape, our research center has not only risen to the challenge but has also set new benchmarks for excellence.

As stewards of this noble mission, we are reminded of the Quranic call to constantly seek knowledge: "Say, 'Are those who know equal to those who do not know?'" (Quran 39:9). Let us honor this calling by continuing to ask questions, challenge norms, and innovate relentlessly.

With thanks and admiration for our teams and unwavering optimism for the future, I second this SCRC invitation to you to explore the highlights of our year and join us in envisioning an even brighter tomorrow.

Dr. Zeeshan Bin Ishtiaque
Chief Executive Officer



CMO's MESSAGE



As the Chief Medical Officer of Shifa International Hospitals, it is both an honor and a privilege to reflect on our continued commitment to advancing medical research and clinical excellence. Over the past year, our team has worked tirelessly to improve patient care through cutting-edge research.

At Shifa, we are deeply committed to delivering exceptional, evidence-based clinical trials that lead to meaningful healthcare breakthroughs. Our organizational ethos revolves around quality, integrity, and the pursuit of excellence in every project we undertake. This commitment not only drives the research initiatives we sponsor but also shapes our approach to patient safety, ethical practices, and the rigorous standards we uphold in every phase of the research process. Our dedicated team of researchers, clinicians, and support staff work collaboratively to design and conduct trials that provide crucial insights into medical conditions and treatments. This ongoing dedication ensures that we remain at the forefront of scientific discovery, contributing to global health advancements, and directly benefiting the communities we serve.

Looking forward, Shifa Clinical Research Centre will continue to strengthen its position as a leader in clinical research. We will expand our efforts in innovative research methodologies, enhance our partnerships with leading academic and pharmaceutical institutions, and maintain our focus on the highest ethical standards and scientific rigor.

Dr. Khawaja Junaid Mustafa
Chief Medical Officer

COO's MESSAGE

As we reflect on the milestones of the previous year, one theme emerges as central to our success: the symbiotic relationship between research and clinical operations. There is no concept of research in isolation; it helps drive the quality, efficiency, and impact of every aspect of patient care.



In a world where healthcare faces ever-growing complexities, Shifa Clinical Research Center has embraced research as the cornerstone of operational excellence. We have demonstrated how research-driven insights lead to actionable solutions—improving processes, elevating patient outcomes, and setting new standards for clinical excellence.

Thankfully, our dedicated teams are working hard to integrate research with day-to-day operations, ensuring that every discovery is translated into practical benefits. From refining treatment protocols to leveraging data analytics for predictive care, we are making strides toward a future where healthcare is responsive and proactive.

What sets SCRC apart is our unwavering commitment to collaboration. We have created a fertile ground for innovation by fostering partnerships across disciplines and institutions. These collaborations ensure that our work remains relevant and impactful, addressing real-world challenges with evidence-based solutions.

The journey we are on is as much about process improvement as it is about vision. Clinical research, when seamlessly integrated into operations, becomes the catalyst for sustainable growth, patient satisfaction, and systemic advancement.

I am confident that our combined efforts will continue to yield transformative results. The dedication of our researchers, clinicians, and support staff inspires me daily, reminding us that the pursuit of knowledge is, in itself, an act of service.

Thank you for your contributions to this mission. Together, we are creating a legacy of excellence that will shape healthcare for generations to come.

Taimoor Shah
Chief Operating Officer

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



It gives me a sense of immense pride when I reflect on the accomplishments of the Shifa Clinical Research Centre over the past year. Together, we have made significant progress in advancing clinical research, driving innovation, and fostering meaningful collaborations. These achievements are a testament to the unwavering commitment, expertise, and shared vision of our team, whose dedication continues to inspire excellence.

As we embrace the opportunities of a rapidly evolving healthcare landscape, we remain steadfast in our mission to leverage innovative methodologies, including AI-driven solutions, to enhance the efficiency and impact of clinical research. Our collective efforts are guided by a commitment to precision, integrity, and patient-centered care, ensuring meaningful contributions to the advancement of global health.

Looking to the future, we are energized by the possibilities ahead and remain united in our pursuit of groundbreaking discoveries. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey as we continue to strive for excellence and impact lives through research.

Prof. Dr. Maimoona Siddiqui

Director, Shifa Clinical Research Center & Medical Education

MEET THE SCRC TEAM



Mehwish Rafique

Biostatistics Lead



Maliha Aziz

Senior Biostatistician



Dr. Sundus Dadan

Sr. Clinical Research Associate



Sumaira Gulzar

Senior Data Abstractor



Raja Waseem

Sr. Research & Regulatory Pharmacist



Dr. Sofia Khan

Sr. Clinical Research Associate



Iqra Rahim

Clinical Research Associate



Taimoor Akhter

Data Abstractor



Abdul Mannan Kiani

Research Coordinator



Muhammad Asim

Finance Coordinator



Muhammad Irfan

Office Assistant

SCRC POLICIES

RESEARCH OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

- Policy for handling and storage of investigational products
- Policy for disbursement of trial funds at SCRC
- Indemnity insurance in clinical trials Shifa Clinical Research Center (SCRC)
- Policy for feasibility studies
- Policy for SCRC and MSA staff involvement in clinical research as contributors
- Policy for archiving clinical trials records
- Policy for destruction of research laboratory kits

GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE

- Policy for financial management of Shifa
- Policy for clinical trials appraisal committee
- Policy for accountability of sponsors / CROs of research
- Plagiarism policy
- Policy for laws, regulations, and hospital leadership in human subjects research
- Policy to oversee and review human subjects research
- Policy for eligibility and selection of principal investigator

A Framework of Integrity: Core Policies Shaping Our Research

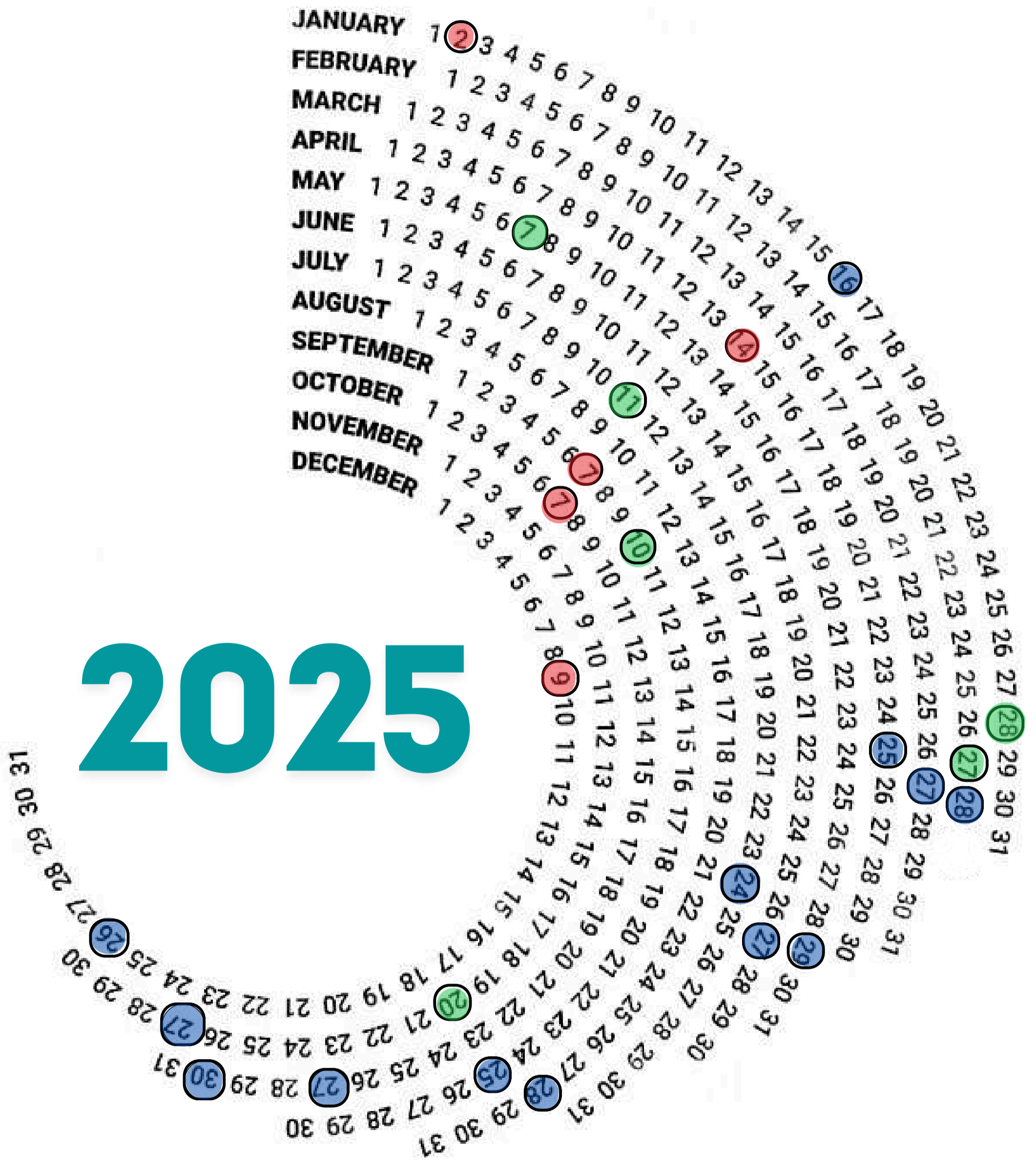
PATIENT AND SUBJECT WELFARE

- Policy for information to patients about their protection as research subjects
- Policy for information to patients and families about how to gain access to research
- Policy for informed consent in research
- Policy for staff/employees as research subjects in clinical research
- Policy for entry and/or transfer criteria for patient admission to specialized ward due to research
- Policy for intensive care admission of research subject
- Policy for adverse event reporting for clinical research

DATA AND MONITORING

- Policy for travel grants
- Policy on research sponsorship PGME/SCRC
- Conflict of interest policy for clinical research
- Policy and procedure manual of cancer registry
- Shifa data and safety monitoring board policy
- Memorandum of understanding (MOU) policy for research with other institutions
- Policy for source documentation for clinical trials
- Policy for data sharing of research projects

MEETING CALENDAR 2025

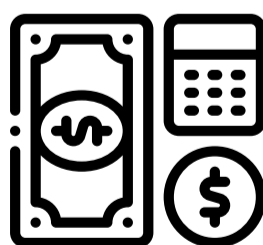


2025



SHIFA DATA SAFETY AND MONITORING BOARD

A quarterly independent data monitoring committee ensures protocol adherence and participant safety in human research



CLINICAL TRIALS APPRAISAL COMMITTEE

A committee of administrative heads meets monthly or bimonthly to vet clinical trials' logistical, administrative, and financial viability



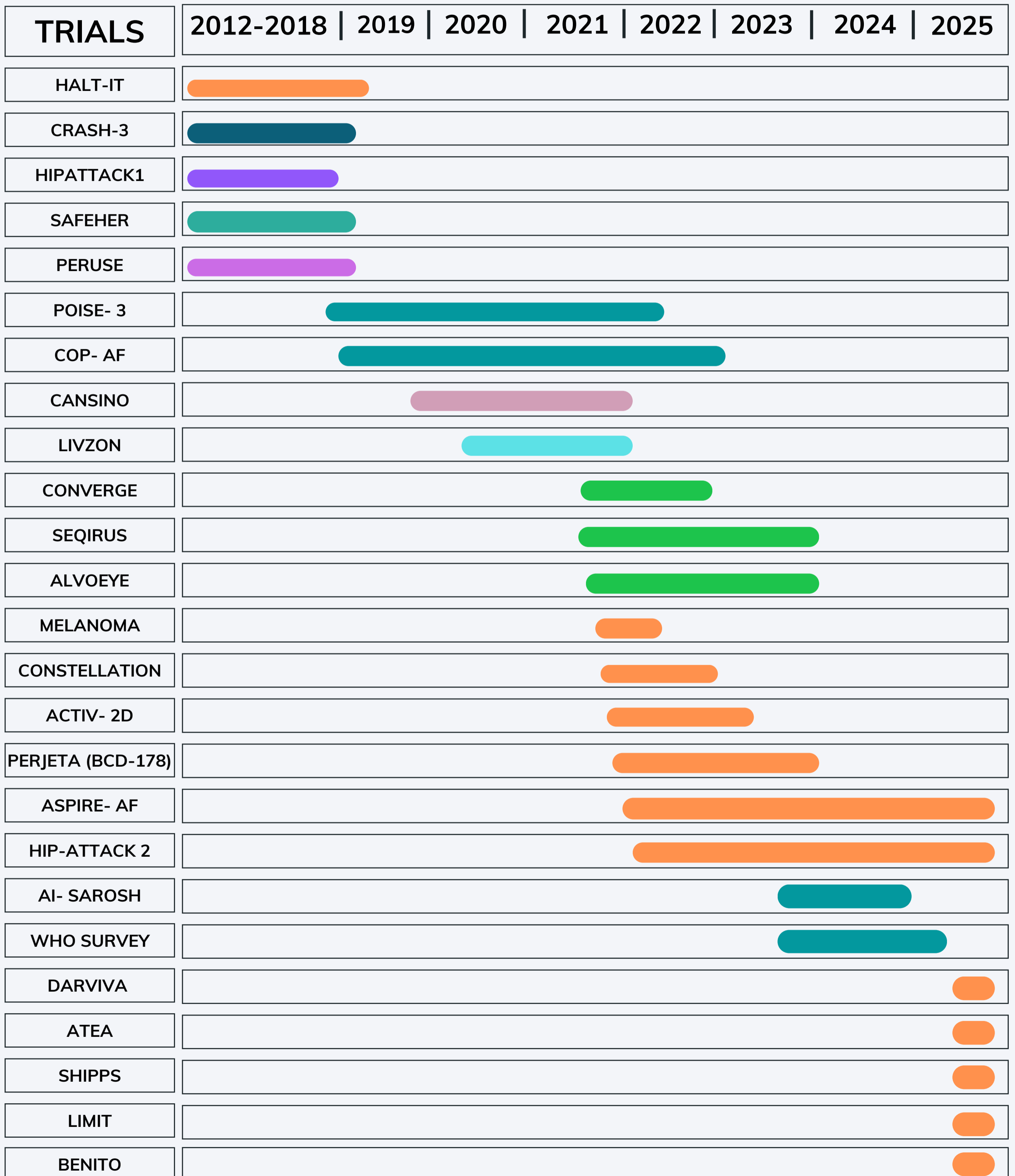
INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

The IRB and Ethics Committee meet monthly to review research protocols, ensuring they adhere to ethical standards and protocol requirements

THE CLINICAL TRIAL PROCESS



CLINICAL TRIALS JOURNEY AT SCRC



CLINICAL TRIALS IN 2025

TRIALS	PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS	SPONSORS	TOTAL RECRUITEMENT
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TRIALS IN ACTIVE PHASE

HIP- ATTACK 2

A multicentre, international, parallel group randomized controlled trial to determine whether accelerated surgery for hip fracture in patients with acute myocardial injury is superior to standard care in reducing death at 90 days after randomization.



Dr. Amer Nabi Nur



Population Health Research Institute Canada

22

ASPIRE- AF

To assess the feasibility of a randomized controlled trial of non-vitamin K oral anticoagulants versus usual care in patients with perioperative atrial fibrillation (AF) after noncardiac surgery and additional stroke risk factors.



Dr. Saeedullah Shah



Population Health Research Institute Canada

10

THE SHIPPS STUDY

A multi-institutional, prospective, controlled, randomized, double-blinded interventional trial to examine the potential benefits and risks of adjunctive hydrocortisone in Paediatric Septic shock.



Dr. Ejaz A Khan



Canadian Institute of Health Research

01

BENITO

Randomized, Multicenter, Multinational, Double-Blind Study to Compare the Pharmacokinetics, Efficacy, Safety and Immunogenicity of MB12 (Proposed Pembrolizumab Biosimilar) versus Keytruda® in Combination with Chemotherapy for the Treatment of Patients with Advanced Stage IV Non-Squamous Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC)



Dr. Muhammad Farrukh



MabXience

Approved by DRAP

TRIALS

PRINCIPAL
INVESTIGATORS

SPONSORS

TOTAL
RECRUITEMENT

TRIALS IN ACTIVE PHASE

DARVIVA BCD-264-2

A A Double-Blind, Randomized Clinical Study of the Efficacy and Safety of Monotherapy with BCD-264 and Darzalex® in Subjects with Relapsed and Refractory Multiple Myeloma



Dr. Muhammad
Ayaz Mir



BIOCAD, Russia

08

ATEA

An Evaluation of Bemnifosbuvir-Ruzasvir (BEM/RZR) Versus Sofosbuvir-Velpatasvir (SOF/VEL) for the Treatment of Chronic Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Infection in a Phase 3 Randomized, Controlled, Open-label Study”



Dr. Sajjad Ali



ATEA

Subjects under
Screening phase

LIMIT

To assess the feasibility of a large trial to evaluate the safety and efficacy of a common, lower INR target range in patients with bileaflet aortic mechanical valves.



Dr. M Afsheen Iqbal



Population Health
Research Institute
Canada

On hold by
Sponsor due to
study documents
amendment

COMPLETED TRIALS

ACTIV- 2D

A Phase 3, multicenter, randomized, double-blind, 24-week study of the clinical and antiviral effect Of S-217622 compared with placebo in non-hospitalized participants with Covid-19.



Dr. Ejaz A Khan



National Institutes of Health, USA

04

SEQIRUS

To assess the feasibility of a randomized controlled trial of non-vitamin K oral anticoagulants versus usual care in patients with perioperative atrial fibrillation (AF) after noncardiac surgery and additional stroke risk factors.



Dr. Ejaz A Khan



Novartis, United Kingdom

60

ALVOEYE

A randomized, double-masked, parallel-group, multicenter, therapeutic equivalence study evaluating the efficacy, safety, and immunogenicity of AVT06 compared with Eylea in subjects with neovascular (wet) AMD.



Dr. Amer Awan



Population Health Research Institute Canada

01

AI- SAROSH

AI-based risk predictive tool for early diagnosis and treatment of Gestational Diabetes in collaboration with a team of experts specialized in AI and software development from NUST



Dr. Shahnaz Nawaz



PHC Global Pakistan

4278

WHO SURVEY

Estimating and monitoring the mortality from cirrhosis and hepatocellular carcinoma attributable to viral hepatitis B and C at a national level



Dr. M. Salih



World Health Organization

2000

BCD-178/PERJETA

A Double-Blind, randomized clinical study of the efficacy and safety of BCD-178 and Perjeta® as Neoadjuvant therapy of HER2-Positive Breast Cancer.



Dr. Azhar Shafi



BIOCAD, Russia

01

TRIALS IN PIPELINE

TRIALS

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

SPONSOR

AI-SAROSH FIELD TESTING

Prospective Cohort of Gestational Diabetes patients



Dr. Shahnaz Nawaz



PHC Global Pakistan

ACT-GLOBAL

Multi domain studies of STROKE



Dr. Nabeel Muzaffar



University of Calgary

TRADITiONAL Study

Multicentre, randomized, parallel group open label study, To evaluate the efficacy and safety of once-daily formulation of Trientine Tetrahydrochloride as first line treatment of Wilson disease.



Dr. M. Salih

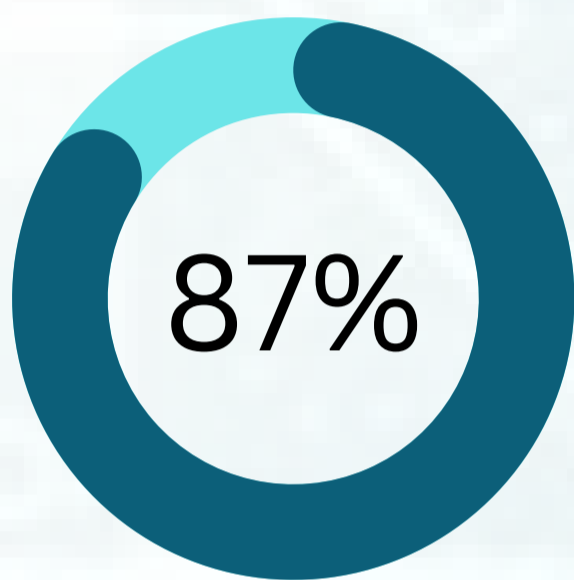


Orphan

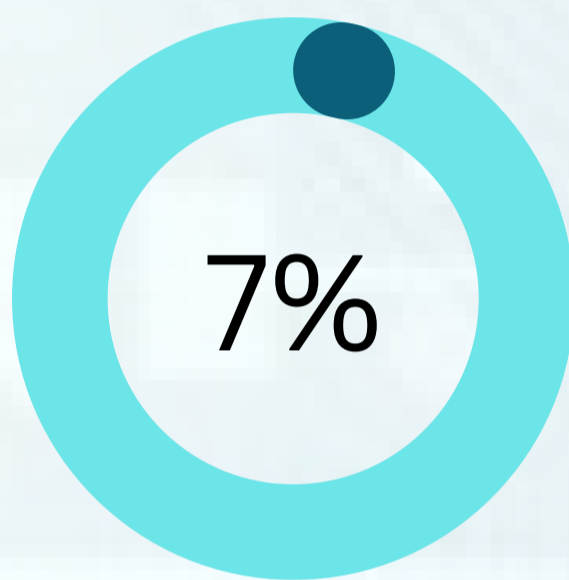
INVESTIGATOR INITIATED PROTOCOLS AT SIHL 2025

IRB RESEARCH PROPOSALS

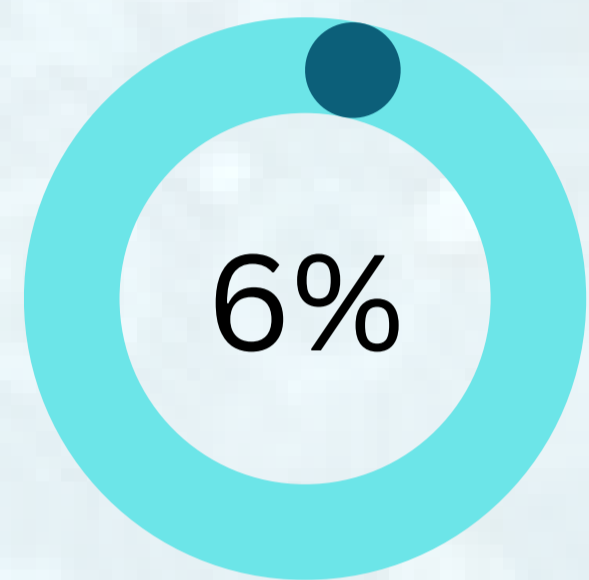
Total protocols submitted at IRB = 619



Approved

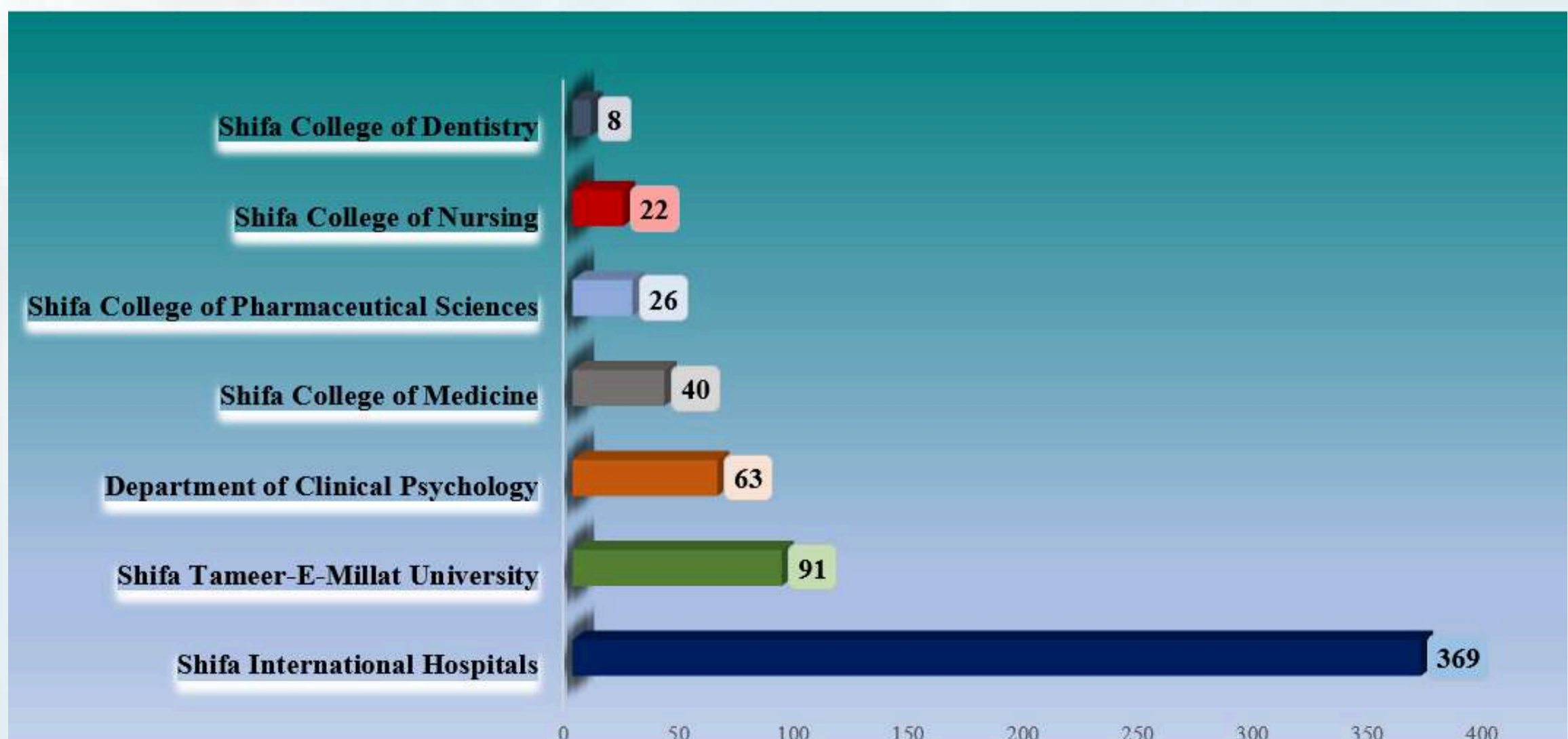


Not Approved



In process

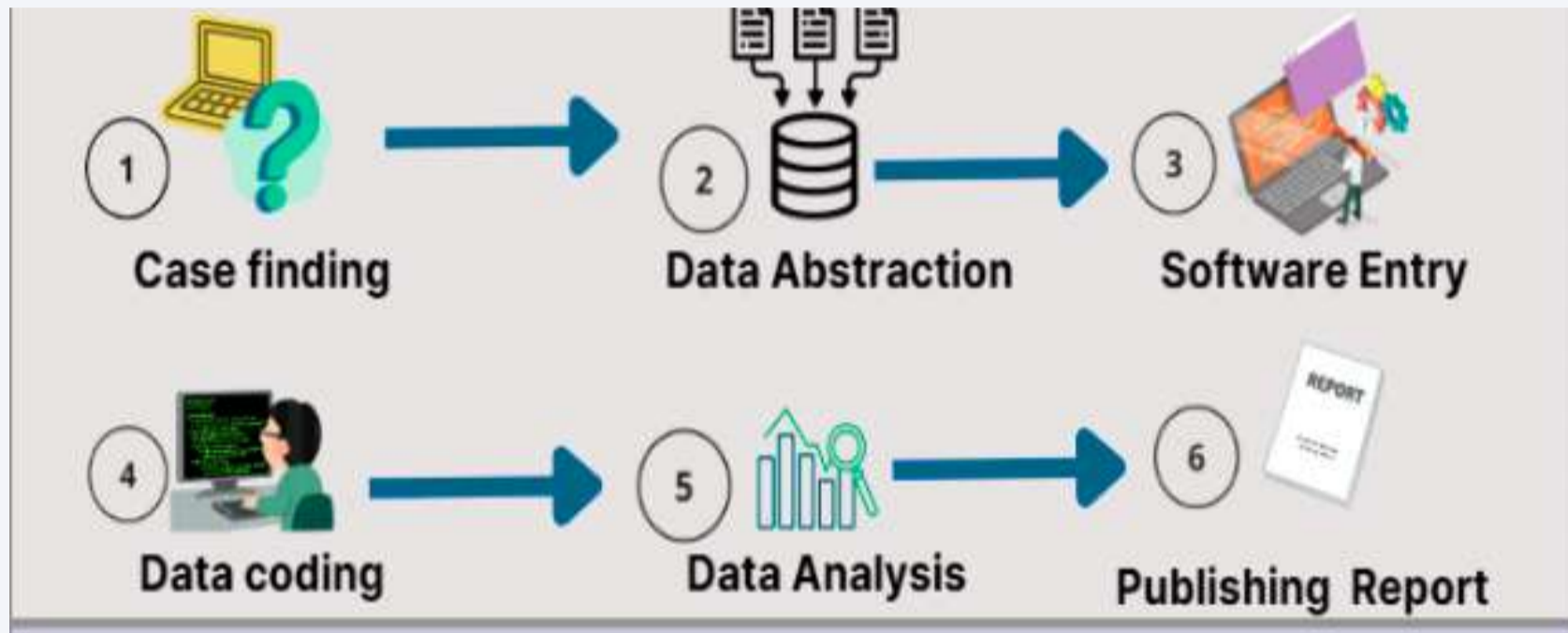
SELECTED PROPOSALS BY INSTITUTIONS (SIHL AND AFFILIATES)



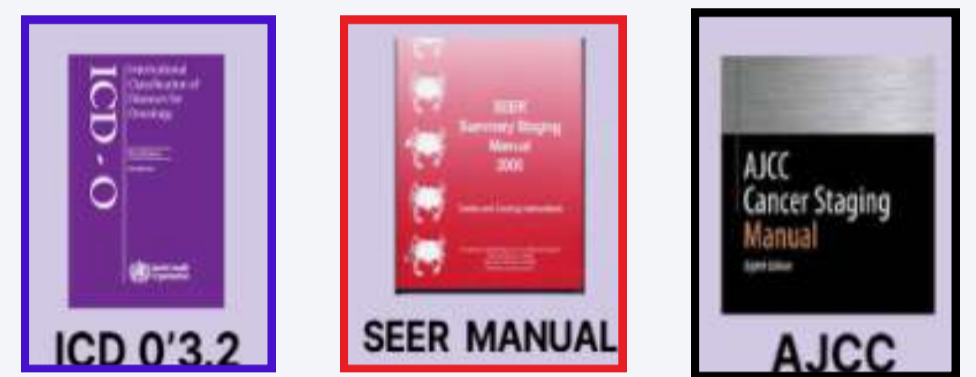
SHIFA CANCER REGISTRY

SCRC maintains a hospital-based cancer registry established in 2018, with data from over 20,000 patients (2018–2024). The registry follows international standards and plays a vital role in improving cancer surveillance, treatment outcomes, and prevention strategies.

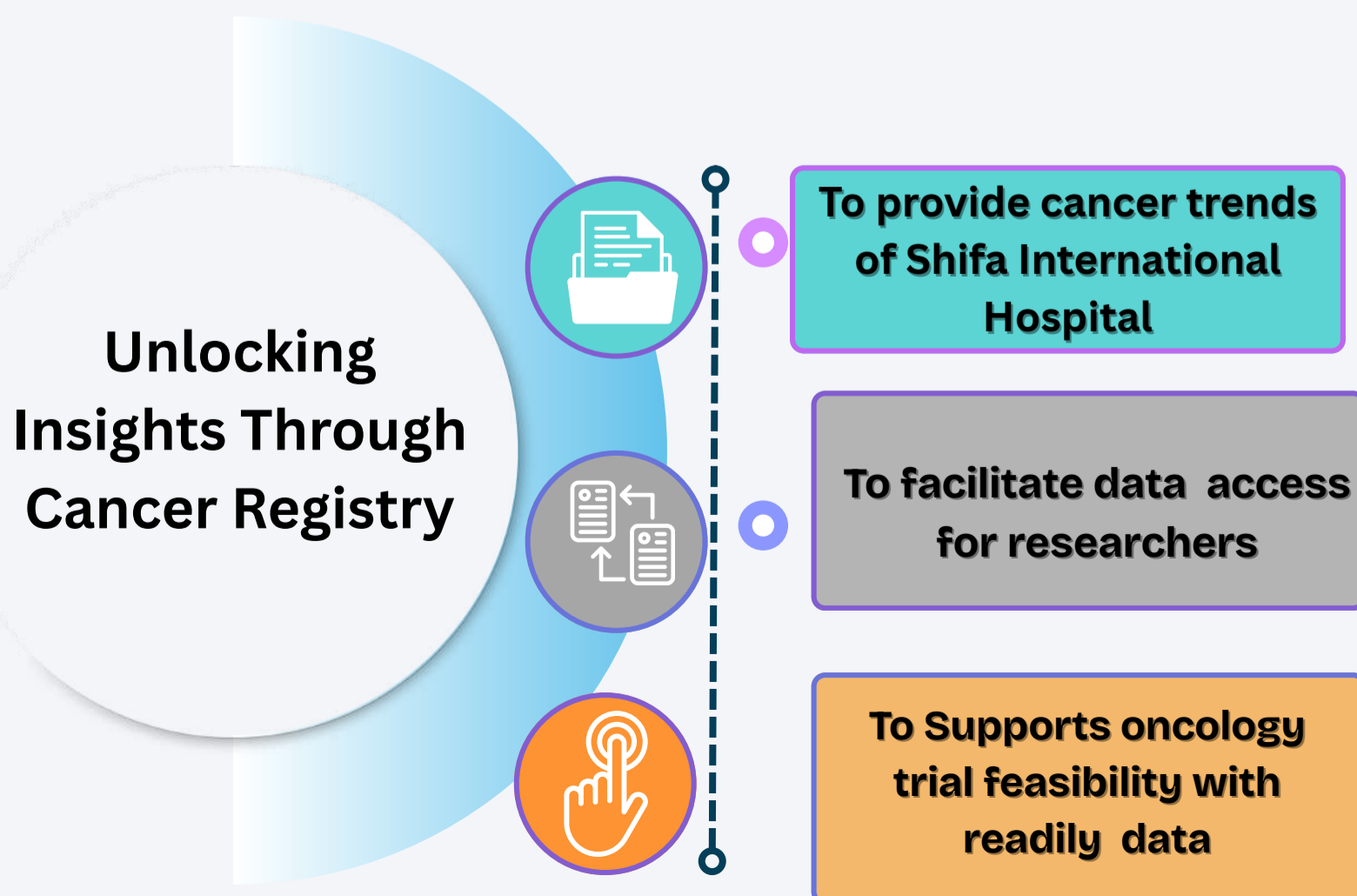
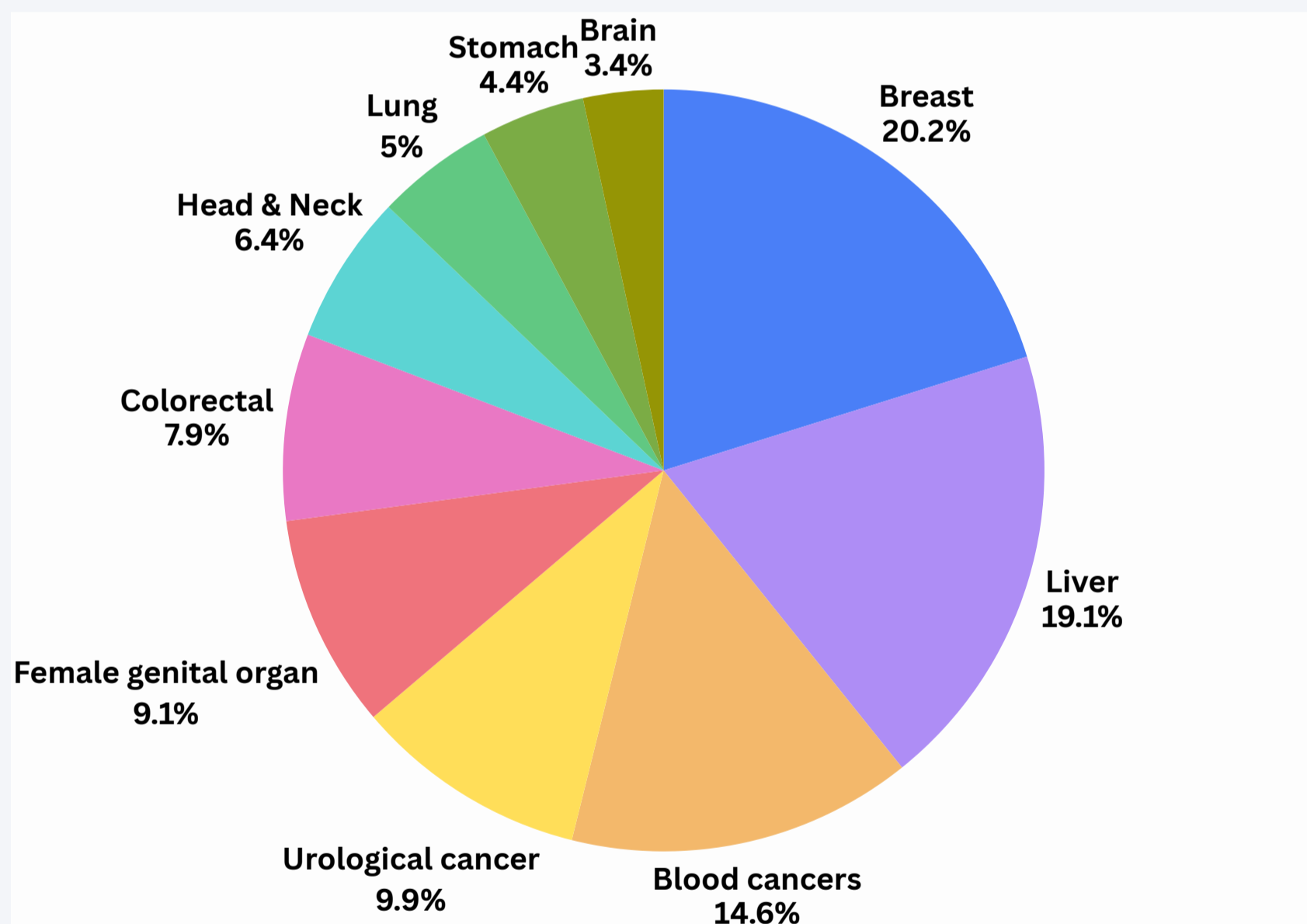
Workflow



Manuals



Ten Most Common Cancers (2018-2024)



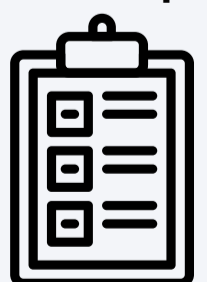
Data Requests

Trial Data Requests



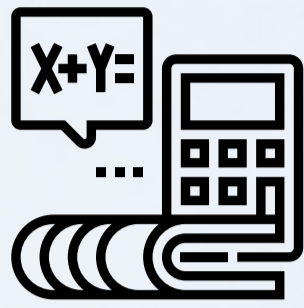
2

IRB Data Requests



1

STATISTICAL FACILITATIONS



PG TRAINEES RESEARCH COURSE

Delivering research training sessions to postgraduate trainees

120



STATISTICAL FACILITATION

Delivering detailed statistical insights for informed decision-making and providing precise calculations to optimize research design

384



PROTOCOL APPRAISALS

Scrutinizing research protocols to confirm they align with quality standards

40

CAPACITY BUILDING

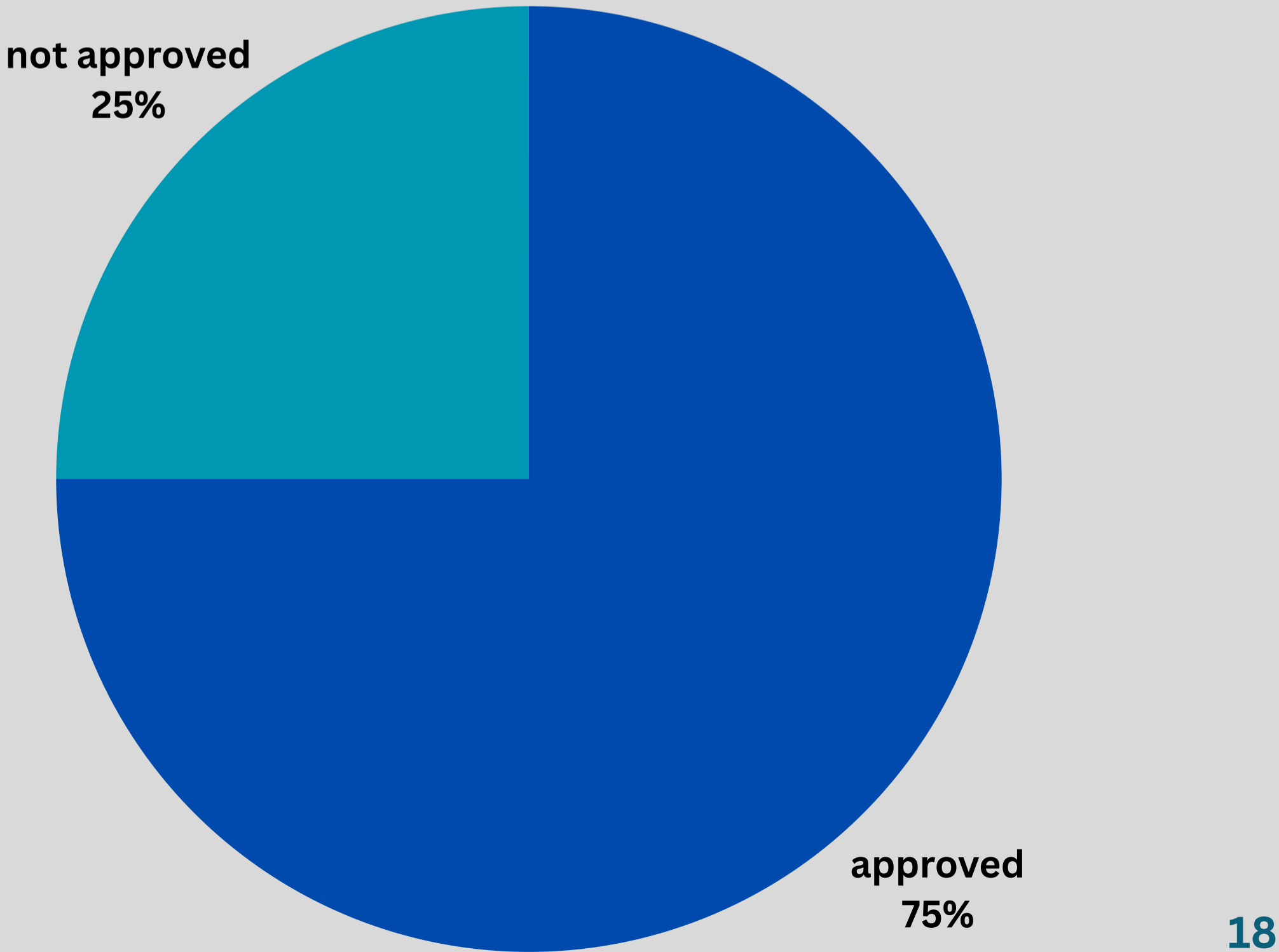
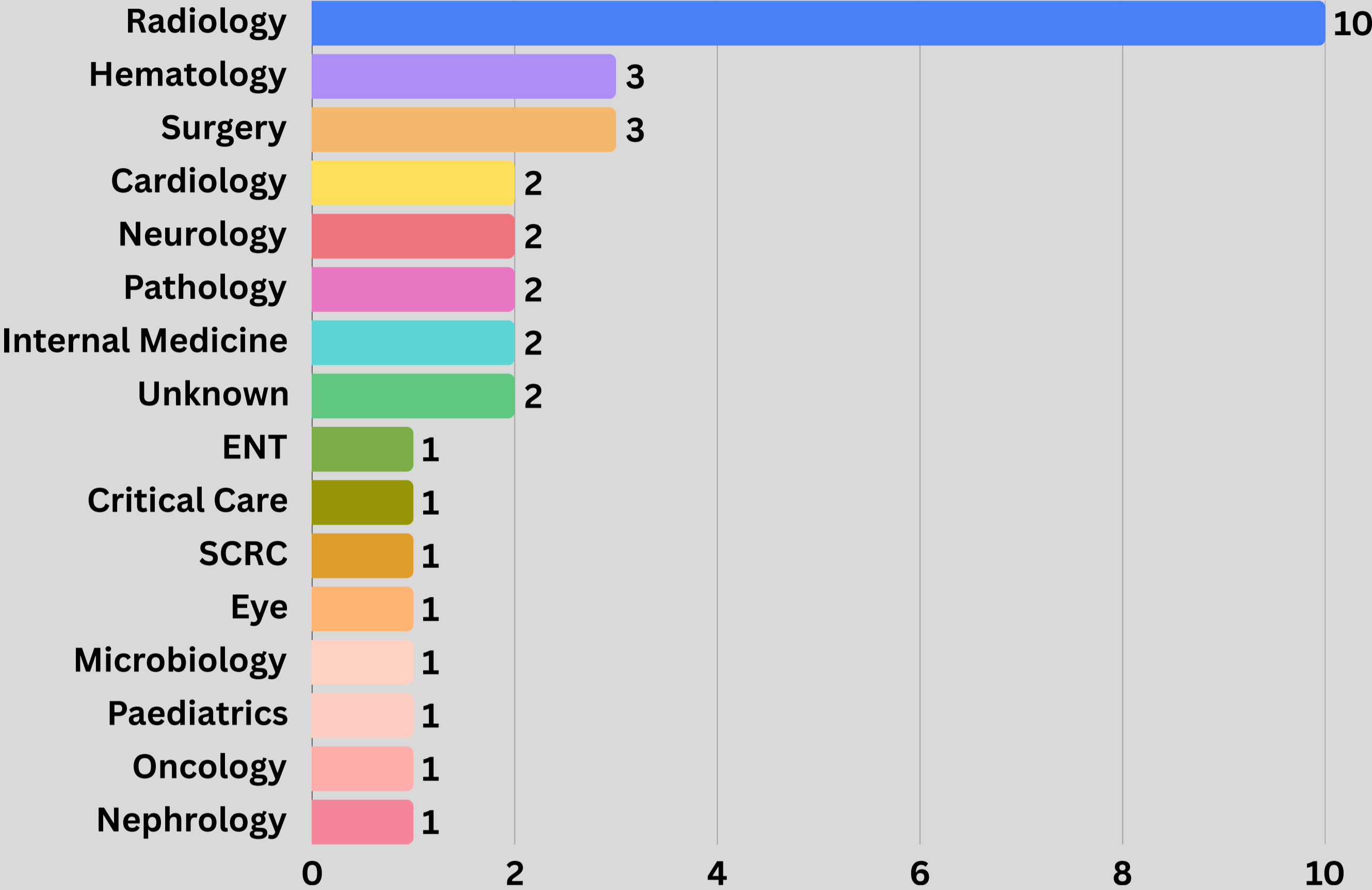
**Associate & Bachelor's of
Science in Medical Technology
Lectures**

**Post-Graduate Medical
Education (PGME) Sessions**

**Hands-On Practice workshop
"Statistics Made Easy"**

**Clinical Research Course
for Pharmacy Students**

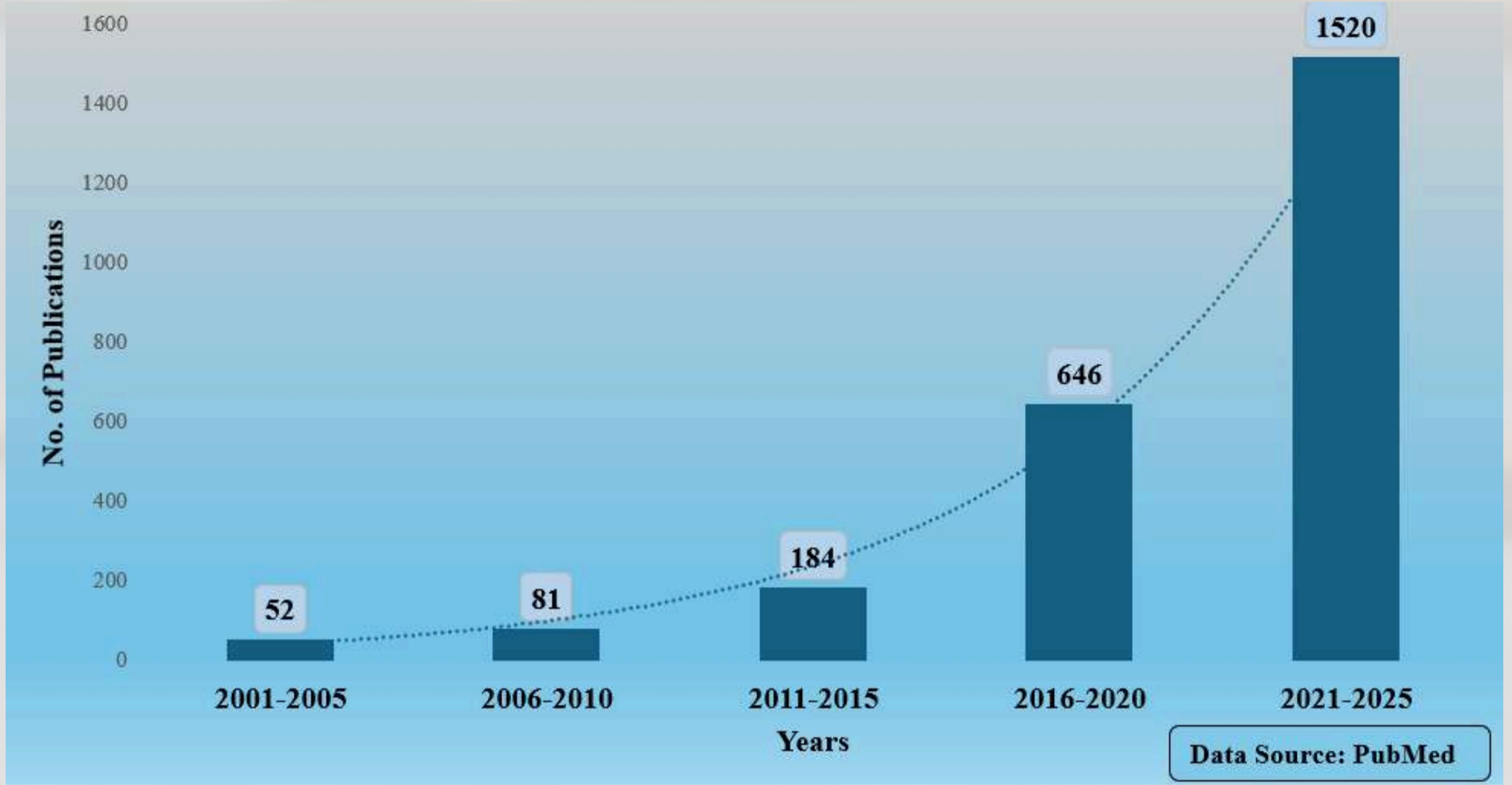
DEPARTMENT-WISE DISTRIBUTION OF RESEARCH GRANTS (2016-2025)



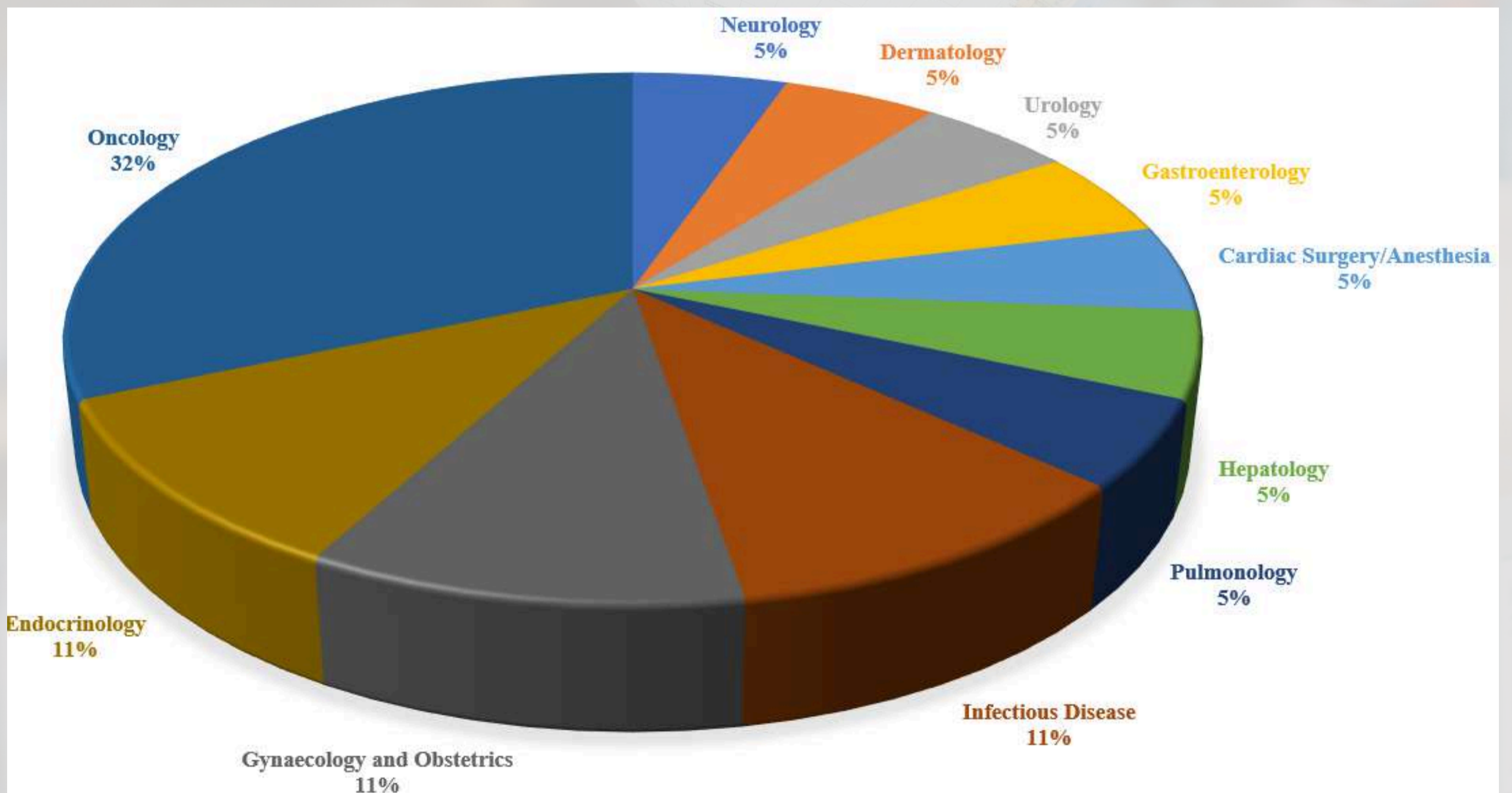
SCRC-ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS



IMPACT FACTOR (IF) RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS SIHL & AFFILIATES



2025 FEASIBILITY STUDIES AT A GLANCE



SCRC PUBLICATIONS 2025

Pak J Med Res
Vol. 63, No. 4, 2025

Original Article

Gallbladder Wall Thickness as a Non-Invasive Tool for Prediction of Esophageal Varices in Patients with Hepatitis C Related Chronic Liver Disease

Munir Ahmed¹, **Maliha Aziz²**, Shahzad Riyaz¹, Mohammad Salih¹, Rashed Nazir³, Muslim Atiq^{1*}
Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology¹, Department of Radiology³, Shifa International Hospital², Islamabad.

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PRINT ISSN 3007-3081



Journal of Medical & Health Sciences Review



ASSOCIATION OF BLOOD PRESSURE VARIABILITY WITH OUTCOMES OF ACUTE ISCHEMIC STROKE

Imam Bakhsh¹, Kinza Riaz¹, Maimoona Siddiqui¹, Asfandyar Khan², Nabeel Muzaffar Syed³, Raja Farhat Shoaib⁴, **Maliha Aziz⁵**

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<https://pakjmcr.com/index.php/1/about>

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3007-2379

Bakhsh et al - 2025

Association of Heart Rate Variability with Outcomes of Acute Ischemic Stroke

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Maimoona Siddiqui Professor of Neurology, Shifa International Hospital, Islamabad. Email: drmsid@gmail.com	Shifa International Hospital	Islamabad
Asfandyar Khan Consultant Neurology, Shifa International Hospital, Islamabad. Email: Niazi.asfand@gmail.com	Shifa International Hospital	Islamabad
Raja Farhat Shoaib Consultant Stroke medicine, Shifa International Hospital, Islamabad. Email: shoaibrf@gmail.com	Shifa International Hospital	Islamabad
Nabeel Muzaffar Syed Consultant Neurology, Shifa International Hospital, Islamabad. Email: nabeel175@gmail.com	Shifa International Hospital	Islamabad
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Clinical Lymphoma Myeloma and Leukemia

Volume 25, Supplement 1, September 2025, Page S1011




Cellular Therapy

CT-315: Outcome of Haploidentical Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation in a Resource-Limited Setting

Khadija Bano MD, D Ahmad Ghani MD, M Saad MD, **M Aziz MD**, T Mahmood Satti MD, A Shafi MD, M Ayaz Mir MD


SCRC PUBLICATIONS 2025







 Clinical Lymphoma Myeloma and Leukemia
Volume 25, Supplement 1, September 2025, Page S1020


Cellular Therapy

CT-444: Comparison of a Total Body Irradiation (TBI)-Based Conditioning Regimen Versus Non-TBI-Based Protocols in Haploidentical Stem Cell Transplant in a Pakistani Cohort: A Single-Center Experience

Muhammad Saad MBBS, FCPS, K Bano MBBS, FCPS, M Furrugh MBBS, FCPS, CCST, D Ahmad Ghani MBBS, FCPS, **M Aziz MS, PD**, T Mahmood Satti MBBS, FCPS, FRCPath, Muhammad Ayaz Mir MBBS, FACP

 **ERS | PUBLICATIONS**

 Journals  Books  Information for  About us  Topics  Collections

Conference Abstract  Free

Does mild to moderate pulmonary hypertension influence liver transplant outcomes?

Muhammad Ahmed Bajwa | Syed Murtaza Hassan Kazmi | Abdul Ahad | Muhammad Yaqoob Akhtar | Sajawal Hussain **Maliha Aziz** | Muslim Atiq | Abu Bakar Hafeez Bhatti [See Less](#)

European Respiratory Journal 2025 66(suppl 69): PA6155; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1183/13993003.congress-2025.PA6155>

 <https://doi.org/10.35845/kmu.j.2025.23753> ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Physician perspectives in treating obesity: an insight from Pakistan


Fatima Ibrar , Farzana Shafqat , Faisal Ali , Abdul Rehman , Saira Akhlaq 
Maliha Aziz , Muslim Atiq 

Genetic Variation in CYP2D6 and Adverse Effects in Cardiovascular Patients on Metoprolol Therapy

Mehwish Rafique
Shifa International Hospital, Islamabad, Pakistan


Ayesha Nasir
Shifa College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University, Islamabad 44000, Pakistan

Nida Saleem
Shifa College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University, Islamabad 44000, Pakistan

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ISSUE

 Clinical Lymphoma Myeloma and Leukemia
Volume 25, Supplement 1, September 2025, Page S375

Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia

ALL-1083: Outcome of T-Lymphoblastic Leukemia/Lymphoma on Hyper-CVAD Chemotherapy in Adolescents, Young Adults, and Adults in Resource-Limited Settings

Khadija Bano MBBS, FCPS, R Javed MBBS, D Ghani MBBS, FCPS, **M Aziz MD**, M Saad MBBS, FCPS, M Ayaz MBBS, MD, T Mahmood MBBS, FCPS

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR



A hands-on workshop on Biostatistics Essentials & SPSS Basics was organized by SCRC with RMI and SCOPE, led by Ms. Mehwish Rafique and Ms. Maliha Aziz, combining key concepts with practical data analysis.



SCRC celebrated International Clinical Trials Day 2025 with IQVIA and hospital investigators, highlighting the importance of clinical research, strengthening collaborations, and reaffirming commitment to high-quality, patient-centered research.



Dr. Maimoona Siddiqui represented Shifa at the Clinical Trial Summit in Pakistan at Aga Khan University, sharing insights on ethical clinical research and highlighting Shifa's international contributions and leadership.



Dr. Maimoona Siddiqui and the SCRC team participated in the Clinical Trial Summit symposium at NUMS, engaging with experts to discuss advancements, challenges, and innovations in clinical trials.



SCRC participated in a symposium at RMI Peshawar. Dr. Maimoona Siddiqui presented on best practices in clinical trials, highlighting strategies for improved execution and data management while fostering collaboration and networking.



SCRC organized a symposium on “Clinical Trials in the Era of AI”, bringing together experts to discuss AI-driven innovations, regulatory aspects, modern trial designs, and ethical considerations shaping the future of clinical research.

- Expansion of Clinical Trials Portfolio
- Strengthening Sponsor & CRO Relationships
- Secure research grants and foster international collaborations

2026



- Development of the SIH Publication Database
- Digitization of all study documents and patient records into E-binders
- Conducting internal audits for ongoing and closed trials
- Development of workflows designed to enhance process improvement

2025



SCRC ROADMAP

- Expansion of the Core Team
- Establishment of State-of-the-Art Research Clinic and Clinical Trial Repository
- Diversification of the Clinical Trial Portfolio
- Digitalization of the Cancer Registry

2024





Contact Us:

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<https://www.shifa.com.pk/shifa-clinical-research-center>

