

ANNUAL REPORT



2020



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2020: A year of challenges and learnings

We already knew, in 2009, long before LACOG was formed, that conducting clinical research in Latin America was a difficult challenge. Then, in 2020, we came up against an entirely new and unexpected scenario, we had to deal with an additional challenge - the situation created by Covid-19.

The pandemic has certainly had a major impact on clinical research in our region. This has probably been no different from what has taken place elsewhere, many studies have been compromised, to a greater or lesser extent.

Certainly, we could discuss the negative aspects and the fact that the number of participants in studies is down, or some studies have been interrupted or had their results delayed, which is a pretty fundamental problem if we want to improve our scientific knowledge. But such problems are better assessed over the coming years.

But we have also learned a great deal as a result of the changed situation. Many procedures, which were previously done in person, had to be carried out virtually, to the same degree of quality, speed and efficiency.

The challenge we now have - regulatory agencies, sponsors, research groups and investigators - is to identify alternative ways that we can encourage clinical research in general and make it easier to be carried out, approving some necessary techniques and avoiding bureaucracy that has no additional benefit.

Although we do not have any complete data on the impact of the pandemic on clinical research, in terms of any increase in the number of studies or investment, what has become apparent is that the media, and society in general, have become more aware and knowledgeable about clinical research processes. They know more about the different phases of drug development, how the patients are involved, the need for time to develop and test new treatment options, and so on.

All of this is likely to have an impact on whether participants agree to take part in a clinical study and how much they understand about it. This change in perspective is very important, especially in Latin American countries, as most people have very little knowledge about what it is about, what the objectives of in a clinical trial are and why it is important for people to take part.

In 2020, 29 studies were ongoing at LACOG; of these, six were initiated during the year. In addition, five trials began, but needed to be stopped because of the pandemic. However, even in this difficult situation, we managed to continue to make advances in our clinical research across Latin America. This is essential for us to be able to provide patients with ever more effective treatment.

Dr. Carlos Barrios



During 2020, LACOG continued to have a positive impact on people's lives through cancer research

The pandemic has had an undeniable impact on our daily lives, not just on LACOG's operational activities, but also on the research sites that contribute to the studies. But despite all the difficulties, we managed to adapt over the year and 2020 has been a positive one for us. We know how important the studies we carry out are for patients, and even during the pandemic, research sites have done an extraordinary job to continue treating patients safely.

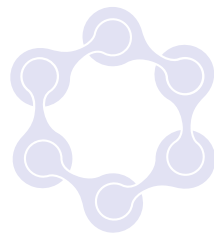
LACOG adopted remote working for most of its employees, and subsequently, we switched to a hybrid format, with some working from home and others working in the office. We invested in online meeting applications to improve our internal and external communications, and we also implemented a project management system to monitor our research progress remotely, in real time.

In 2020 we approved a number of new projects that will begin next year, and along with this we also increased the number of employees on the team at LACOG. They have knowledge and experience that will help support our mission and purpose, and firmly demonstrate our ability and credibility. We believe that this is how we can continue to have an ever larger role in oncological clinical research in Latin America. Another important highlight of the year was the success in holding LACOG's educational events entirely online. Thanks to technology, people from many different parts of Brazil and Latin America could meet up and exchange their valuable knowledge. This was a unique experience, because for the first time we could include doctors from distant regions who found it difficult to attend our events in person. This showed us that it is possible to do things differently, when it comes to educating on clinical research and cancer or conducting the work we want to do.

The COVID-19 pandemic disseminates the understanding of people about research and its importance to scientific progress.

Dr. Gustavo Werutsky

Cancer Research impacting the lives of Latin Americans



The Latin American Cooperative Oncology Group - LACOG, was founded 10 years ago by Latin American oncologists who wanted to improve clinical research. The main objective of the group was to create a network for investigators and also to promote innovative studies in the field. In 2020, LACOG had over 400 members, working in 190 research sites and hospitals.

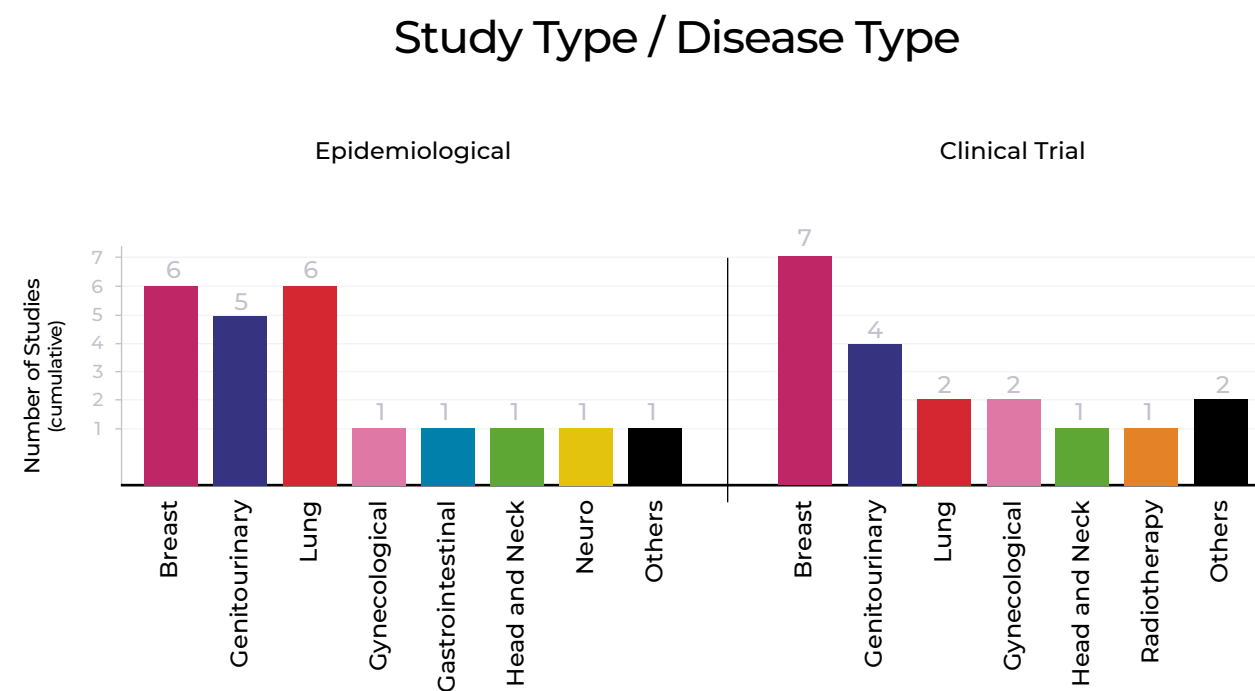
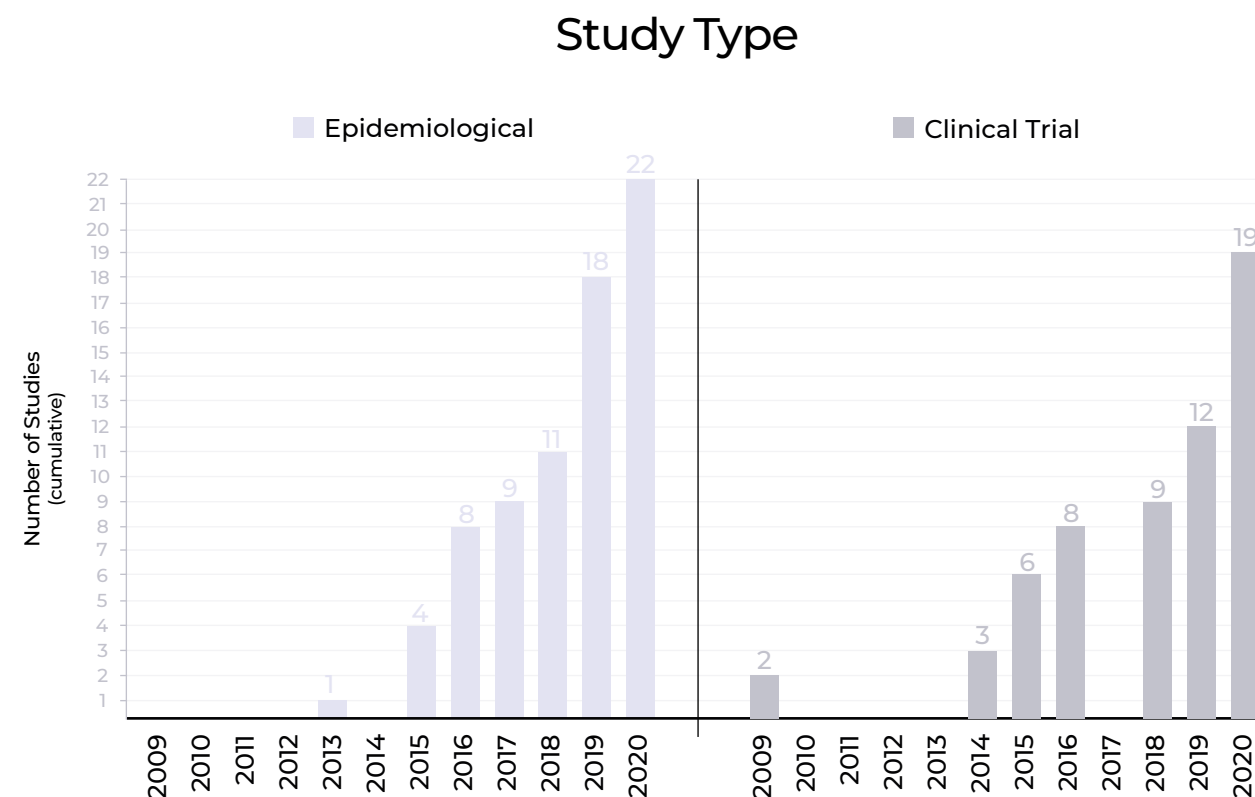
Epidemiological studies conducted in Latin America have generated data on patient characteristics, treatments patterns, and outcomes of this population. In addition, clinical research studies have also been conducted in Latin America, not only generating knowledge, but also allowing Latin-American patients to participate in clinical research with the most advanced cancer treatments. Currently, LACOG has 29 ongoing studies.

In order to improve study performance and support educational activities, LACOG created 8 groups formed by specialists in different oncology areas. The groups are breast, gynecological, genitourinary, lung, neuro, head and neck, gastrointestinal, and radiation.

Currently, LACOG has eight studies that include translational research. The biological samples collected in these studies are stored in the LACOG biorepository in partnership with Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul (PUCRS) Biobank which has all the regulatory and ethical requirements approvals.



STUDIES BETWEEN 2009 AND 2020





04 COORDINATING OFFICE

The team at LACOG consists of 24 staff, including physicians, biomedical scientists, pharmacists, statisticians, IT analysts, administrators and communications officers, all working on improving clinical research in Latin America.

The LACOG office is located at Tecnopuc - The PUCRS Science and Technology Park - in Porto Alegre, Brazil. It helps researchers to draw up their research concepts, develop protocols, manage and monitor data, drug safety and statistical analysis.

05 LACOG MEMBERS

Being a member of LACOG allows an investigator to take part in or coordinate studies in Latin America or across the world and improve cancer research in this region.

In 2020, LACOG reached a total of 420 members. They contribute by suggesting new studies, supporting ongoing research and publishing papers.

ARGENTINA
28

BOLIVIA
02

BRAZIL
312

COLOMBIA
13

CHILE
10

COSTA RICA
05

CUBA
02

EL SALVADOR
01

ECUADOR
02

GUATEMALA
05

MEXICO
20

NICARAGUA
01

PANAMA
02

PERU
12

URUGUAY
02

VENEZUELA
03

06 LACOG NUMBERS



420
MEMBERS



200
HOSPITALS AND
RESEARCH SITES



16
COUNTRIES

Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela



MORE THAN
40
EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDIES
AND CLINICAL TRIALS



MORE THAN
10.000
PATIENTS ENROLLED



MORE THAN
69
ABSTRACTS AND
ARTICLES PUBLISHED



MORE THAN
23
EDUCATIONAL EVENTS
PERFORMED

07

OUR PARTNERS

LACOG collaborates with national and international study groups, participating in the development and management of epidemiological studies and clinical trials.



LACOG IS MEMBER OF





LACOG
GROUPS



GENITOURINARY



LUNG



HEAD AND NECK



GYNECOLOGICAL



RADIATION



NEURO



BREAST



GASTROINTESTINAL

Over the year of 2020, the group worked even more cohesively and was able to be more active in the genitourinary area. We have had a significant increase in the number of ongoing studies and publications.

The LACOG Genitourinary group pressed forward with **six studies in 2020**:

- **LACOG 0415:** The aim of this study is to compare patients undergoing different types of androgen deprivation therapy to treat prostate cancer.
- **LACOG 0515:** The construction of a multi-centric database of patients with germ cell tumors, in order to characterize them clinically and pathologically and evaluate treatment results.
- **LACOG 0217 IRONMAN:** The creation of an international registry to improve outcomes in men with advanced prostate cancer.
- **LACOG 0218 HERCULES:** This is to study assesses the use of pembrolizumab combined with cisplatin-based chemotherapy as a first-line therapy in advanced penile cancer.
- **LACOG 1518:** This is a molecular epidemiological study on urothelial carcinoma, which began in 2019 and involves several Latin American countries.
- **LACOG 1818:** This study examined the outcomes among patients treated in public and private healthcare systems. The objective was to demonstrate the differences in treatment.

Our group had also seven articles published in journals such as the Brazilian Journal of Oncology, the Journal of Cancer Research and Clinical Oncology and the Journal of Cancer Research and Clinical Oncology. Among these publications, the following stand out:

- First-line treatment of metastatic renal cell carcinoma in the immuno-oncology era: systematic review and network meta-analysis, published in Clin Genitourin Cancer;
- Penile cancer: a Brazilian consensus statement for low- and middle-income countries, in JCancer Res Clin Oncol.

The highlight of the events that the group promoted was the GU Review 2020, which was held online and which we consider to have been very successful. 1,797 signed up, including 88 participants from outside Brazil and 93 speakers (19 from overseas).

We intend to continue this expansion in 2021, and some important studies are already scheduled to begin.

Dr. Diogo Assed Bastos



Dr. Diogo Assed Bastos

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Dr. Fernando Nunes

Secretary
Clion – Oncology Clinic
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Dr. Vinícius Carrera

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In 2020, the LACOG Lung Group and the GBOT (Brazilian Group for Thoracic Oncology) continued to make progress, both in developing new clinical studies and in promoting educational events.

Throughout 2020, the group conducted the following studies:

- **LACOG 0618** - Nivolumab Lung - Safety and Efficacy of Nivolumab in previously treated patients with advanced NSCLC: Real World Data from an Expanded Access Program in Brazil, led by Dr. Ana Gelatti
- **LACOG 0116** - LATINO LUNG - Prospective epidemiological study of metastatic Non Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) in Latin America, led by Dr. Gustavo Werutsky
- **LACOG 0118** - RELANCE - Retrospective epidemiological study of Locally Advanced Non Small Cell Lung Cancer, led by Dr. Vladmir Lima
- **LACOG 0417** - CNS MTX - Retrospective Analysis of Patients with Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer with Brain Metastasis, led by Dr. Juliano Cé Coelho and Dr. Luiz Henrique de Lima Araújo
- **LACOG 1918** - Patient Journey with advanced lung cancer positive for ALK fusion in Brazil, led by Dr. Eldsamira Mascarenhas
- **LACOG 2218** - PACIFIC BRAZIL - Intensified chemo-immuno-radiotherapy with durvalumab (MEDI4736) for stage III Non-Small Cell Lung Cancers (NSCLCs): a Brazilian Single Arm Phase II study, led by Dr. William William

In addition, the group presented the first results of the LACOG 0118 study, Retrospective epidemiological study of Locally Advanced Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer patients in Brazil (RELANCE), led by Dr. Vladmir Lima. Another relevant publication was the manuscript "Real-World Prevalence of PD-L1 Expression Among Tumor Samples from Patients with Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer".

In 2020, the GBOT Virtual Symposium was held online and attended by around 400 physicians: pulmonologists, thoracic surgeons, radiation oncologists, clinical oncologists, and others. The aim of the symposium is to discuss the main developments in lung cancer diagnosis and treatment, as well as the latest evidence on tumor markers, new drugs and therapies.

— *Dr. Ana Gelatti*



Dr. Gilberto Castro

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The LACOG Head and Neck Group works jointly with the Brazilian Head and Neck Cancer Group (GBCP) to carry out activities to support research, the continuing development of healthcare professionals and to raise awareness of the disease in patients and the community.

The group's social media focuses on raising people's awareness of these types of tumors, as well as patient care. We held livestreams on Instagram and created a YouTube channel, both were dedicated to discussing topics in the area, with the constant support of healthcare workers and support staff, using clear language so that non-specialist professionals and the lay public would both be able to understand as well.

We agreed partnerships with organizations in the head and neck cancer healthcare sector. One of those we finalized was with the Head and Neck Cancer International Group, which involves researchers from all over the world.

The group also launched a fundraising campaign, in partnership with Projeto Cura, to collect, from August to September, donations that would make it possible to conduct a thousand laboratory tests for clinical research into head and neck cancer in Brazil. The aim was to involve the community by making them aware of the importance of early diagnosis and treatment. The sum we achieved was 138% higher than initially estimated: we collected sufficient funds to acquire 1,430 tests.

In 2020, we carried out our activities online, due to the pandemic, but we had excellent numbers and reach for our events. We ended the year with the following meetings, held in parallel: The First Multidisciplinary Support Forum: an event dedicated to the support and rehabilitation of patients with head and neck cancer; the Third GBGP Annual Symposium 2020: dedicated to the latest updates in this specialist area; and the Second Forum for Patients with Head and Neck Cancer: at which, the main issues in treating the disease, the side effects, the sequelae and access to treatment, were all discussed.

In addition, the group had four studies published in journals such as Lancet Oncol, Crit Rev Oncol Hematol, Oral Oncol and Int J Radiat Oncol, with a particular highlight being the editorial in the important magazine, Oral Oncology, about Covid-19 and head and neck cancer, which was put together by the group, with help from head and neck oncology experts from around the world. We were also able to celebrate the launch of the Head and Neck Oncology Manual, which covers all the tumors to be found in this region. An important achievement for the group!

In summary, 2020 was a very full year, during which we agreed an important partnership with the GBGP, and in which our activities were able to have an impact on academia, education and the support and awareness about head and neck tumors.

— *Dr. Aline Lauda F. Chaves*



Dr. Aline Lauda F. Chaves

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In a challenging 2020, the LACOG Gynecological Group took some important steps in ensuring it could continue to grow as it needs to; the main one was the formalization of its membership of the Gynecologic Cancer Intergroup (GCIG), the largest international cooperative group in gynecological cancer research. The group also began its first collaborative study as part of this partnership: SENTICOL III.

The LACOG Gynecological group has been gaining international recognition. Therefore, support has been provided to investigators to conduct studies such as EVITA LATAM and CONDOR. For 2021, we intend to expand our international partnerships and encourage LATAM investigators to work and hold events jointly with the Brazilian Group on Gynecological Tumors.

Currently, the group has partnerships with the Brazilian Group on Oncological Tumors (EVA), the Gynecologic Cancer Intergroup (GCIG) and the Gynecologic Oncology Group (GOG).

Important Studies in 2020:

- **LACOG 1018** - Palbociclib plus letrozole combination after progression to second line chemotherapy for women with ER/PR-positive ovarian cancer.
- **SENTICOL III**: a validation study of sentinel node biopsy in early cervical cancer.
- **EVITA LATAM**: an evaluation of the epidemiology of cervical cancer in Latin America.
- **LACOG 0215 - EVITA**: an evaluation of the characteristics of cervical cancer in Brazil.
- **CONDOR**: an evaluation of the safety and efficacy of niraparib plus dostarlimab in patients with ovarian cancer in Latin America.

Dr. Angélica Nogueira Rodrigues



Dr. Angélica Nogueira Rodrigues

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National Institute of Cancerology
Institute of Biomedical Investigation UNAM
Mexico City, Mexico

2020 was an exceptional year for the LACOG Radiation Group. We concentrated on the group's organization, however, it also turned out to be a very promising time, in terms of the ideas that were brought up and discussed. Our goal is, in addition to increasing the number of studies being carried out, to increase the number of patients taking part.

As well as a number of debates internally and with the LACOG managers, to try to improve activity, we were also able to improve our relationships with important institutions, such as the European Society for Radiotherapy and Oncology (ESTRO), the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) and the Trans Tasman Radiation Oncology Group (TROG).

In 2020, we had 78 papers published in renowned journals, such as JAMA Oncology, Clinical Oncology, Neuro Oncology, the Brazilian Journal of Oncology and Frontiers in Oncology.

A number of our members also assisted with producing the book "Cancer Management in Latin America", which was published in two volumes. The first volume covered terms such as nasopharyngeal cancer and kidney cancer; the second discussed melanoma and the cost-effectiveness of treatments.

It is probably the first book specifically on cancer in Latin America, written by authors from different countries and distributed worldwide. The focus on Latin America means that we can give readers information on managing cancer that's more specific to the region.

Of the studies that were initiated or in progress in 2020, one of particular interest was the sub-analysis of the radiotherapy data from the EVITA, AMAZONA III and RELANCE studies.

Dr. Maurício Fraga da Silva



Dr. Maurício Fraga da Silva

LACOG | Radiation Group Chair
The University Hospital of Santa Maria
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Secretary
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The year of 2020 was unique and challenging for all of us. Despite the pandemic we were able to continue our breast cancer studies with the great effort and commitment of LACOG staff, investigators and sites.

LACOG Breast Group is currently participating in the BIG trials ALEXANDRA/IMpassion 030 (BIG 16-05) open for recruitment in Brazil and Mexico. Another clinical trial, PALLAS (BIG 14-03), had the participation of Mexican sites, and its first results presented at ESMO Virtual Congress 2020 and published in The Lancet Oncology.

We are conducting the most comprehensive breast cancer prospective registry in Latin America (LATINA Breast study - LACOG 0615). As of December 2020, the study included more than 1,600 patients from the within 32 sites in 11 countries.

LACOG Breast group and GBECAM published the first results of AMAZONA III, a real-world study, which showed that patients from the public health system were diagnosed more frequently with symptomatic disease, at later stages and with more aggressive breast cancer subtypes when compared to patients with private health coverage. Two posters were presented in San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium 2020. A sub-analysis of AMAZONA III showed that around 10% of patients in Brazil do not return to work, get divorced or end their partner relationship after 1 year of breast cancer diagnosis. Another study presented at SABCS evaluated the influence of physician's lifestyle on prescription of healthy habits to breast cancer patients. The LACOG 1218 study, demonstrated that the majority of physicians treating breast cancer patients have a healthy lifestyle and those that practice physical activity regularly or are older than 50 years had more chances to advise lifestyle modification. Several study proposals from breast cancer investigators in Latin America are being evaluated to be developed by LACOG in the next years.

*Dr. Gustavo Werutsky on behalf of
LACOG Breast Cancer Group*



Dr. Henry Gomez Moreno

LACOG | Breast Group Chair
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Our group began two studies in 2020: LACOG 0119, a retrospective and multicenter study to assess the prognostic and predictive factors in patients with neuroendocrine tumors, and LACOG / GTG 1318 - CCA, a retrospective and multicenter study on prognostic factors and predictive factors in patients with squamous cell carcinoma of the anus. Both are being carried out in partnership with the Brazilian Group on Gastrointestinal Tumors (GTG).

In addition to this we also held a number of events, such as the post-ASCO / ESMO-GI and ESMO video conferences, as well as a video conference on the Covid-19 recommendations for patients with gastrointestinal tumors. There were also two notable publications by the group in the journal Ecanermedicalscience:

- Evidence-based recommendations for gastrointestinal cancer during the Covid-19 pandemic by the Brazilian Group on Gastrointestinal Tumors;
- Consensus-based guidance from the Brazilian Group on Gastrointestinal Tumors for managing gastric cancer.

In general, we believe that, despite the pandemic, our group performed very positively during 2020. Although we have only been able to carry out a few initiatives, we are hopeful that we will be able to get new study proposals approved that will improve the treatment of patients with gastrointestinal cancer.

— *Dr. Rachel Riechelmann*



Dr. Rachel Riechelmann

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Vice-chair
Clínica AMO – Multidisciplinary Support in
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Salvador (BA), Brazil



Dr. Renata D'alpino Peixoto

Secretary
The Paulista Center of Oncology,
Oncoclínicas Group
São Paulo (SP), Brazil

Last year, the LACOG Neuro Group began the LACOG 0619 study, the aim of which was the characterization of patients with diffuse gliomas (oligodendroglioma, astrocytoma and glioblastoma) in Brazil. We managed to record around 600 patients.

We will continue to try to strengthen the group in 2021, which will allow us to develop new studies that will be of benefit to patients.

Dr. Camilla Akemi Felizardo Yamada



Dr. Camilla Akemi Felizardo Yamada

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LACOG STUDIES

LUNG	STUDY NAME	TYPE OF STUDY	SPONSOR / SUPPORT	TITLE	SAMPLE SIZE	COUNTRIES LATAM
	LACOG 0116 LATINO LUNG	Epidemiological	LACOG, BMS, Pfizer	Prospective epidemiological study of metastatic Non Small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) in Latin America	800 patients	Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Uruguay
	LACOG 0118 RELANCE	Epidemiological	LACOG, GBOT, AstraZeneca	Retrospective epidemiological study of Locally Advanced Non Small Cell Lung Cancer	400 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 0417 CNS MTX	Epidemiological	LACOG, GBOT	Retrospective Analysis of Patients with Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer with Brain Metastasis	385 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 1918 ALK registry	Epidemiological	LACOG, GBOT, Takeda	Patient Journey with advanced lung cancer positive for ALK fusion in Brazil	70 to 100 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 2218 PACIFIC BRAZIL	Clinical Trial	LACOG, AstraZeneca	Intensified chemo-immuno-radiotherapy with durvalumab (MEDI4736) for stage III Non-Small Cell Lung Cancers (NSCLCs): a Brazilian Single Arm Phase II study (PACIFIC BRAZIL)	48 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 0618 Nivolumab Lung	Epidemiological	LACOG, GBOT, BMS	Safety and Efficacy of Nivolumab in previously treated patients with advanced NSCLC: Real World Data from an EAP in Brazil.	Sample size was not predetermined	Brazil

BREAST	STUDY NAME	TYPE OF STUDY	SPONSOR / SUPPORT	TITLE	SAMPLE SIZE	COUNTRIES LATAM
	LACOG 0615 LATINA Breast	Epidemiological	LACOG, Roche	A study to observe patients characteristics, treatment patterns and outcomes in patients with newly diagnosed breast cancer in Latin America.	4.500 patients	Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Republica Dominicana Uruguay and Venezuela
	LACOG 0413 Male Breast Cancer	Epidemiological	EORTC	Clinical and biological characterization of Male Breast Cancer: an international EORTC, BIC, TBCRC and NABCG intergroup study.	533 patients	Brazil, Mexico and Peru
	GBECAM 0115 - AMAZONA III	Epidemiological	LACOG, GBECAM, PRONON	Prospective evaluation of breast cancer at Brazilian institutions - Project AMAZONA III	331 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 0715 PALLAS	Clinical Trial	ABCSG, ALLIANCE, LACOG	A randomized phase III trialof palbociclib with adjuvant endocrine therapy versus endocrine therapy alone for hormone receptor positive (HR+)/ human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-negative early breast Cancer	3.000 patients	Mexico
	LACOG 2118 ALEXAN-DRA/IMPas-sion 030	Clinical Trial	BIG, AFT, Institut Jules, Bordet, IJB, CTSU, Frontier Science Foundation, Roche, LACOG	A phase III, multicenter, randomized, open-label study comparing Atezolizumab (ANTI-PD-L1 ANTIBODY) in combination with adjuvant Anthracycline/ Taxane-based chemotherapy versus chemotherapy alone in patients with operable triple-negative breast cancer.	2.300 patients	Brazil and Mexico
	LACOG 0419 NEOSAMBA	Clinical Trial	LACOG, GBECAM	A randomized phase III trial evaluating the sequencing of antracyclic and taxane as neoadjuvant therapy in locally advanced HER2-negative breast cancer	494 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 1020 GLORIA	Clinical Trial	OBI Pharma, LACOG	The GLORIA Study: A Phase 3, Randomized, Open-Label Study of the Anti-Globo H Vaccine Adagloxad Simolenin (OBI-822)/OBI-821 in the Adjuvant Treatment of Patients with High-Risk, Early-Stage Globo H-Positive Triple Negative Breast Cancer	668 patients	Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Peru

	STUDY NAME	TYPE OF STUDY	SPONSOR / SUPPORT	TITLE	SAMPLE SIZE	COUNTRIES LATAM
GASTROINTESTINAL	LACOG/GTG 1318 - CCA	Epidemiological	LACOG, GTG	A multicenter retrospective database on prognostic and predictive factors in patients with squamous cell carcinoma of the anus.	300 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 0119 NET	Epidemiological	LACOG, GTG	A multicenter retrospective database on prognostic and predictive factors in patients with neuroendocrine tumors	300 patients	Brazil
GYNECOLOGICAL	LACOG 0215 EVITA	Epidemiological	LACOG, Roche	Prospective evaluation of patients with uterine cervical cancer in Brazilian health institutions	800 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 1018 OVÁRIO	Clinical Trial	LACOG, Pfizer	Palbociclib plus letrozole combination after progression to second line chemotherapy for women with ER/PR-positive ovarian cancer	39 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 0920 Senticol	Clinical Trial	Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Besançon, LACOG	International validation study of sentinel node biopsy in early cervical cancer	950 patients	Brazil
NEURO	LACOG 0619	Epidemiological	LACOG	Characterization of patients with diffuse gliomas in Brazil	300 patients	Brazil
HEAD AND NECK	LACOG 0318 Induction	Clinical Trial	LACOG, Hospital de Câncer de Barretos	A phase III, open-label, randomized clinical trial of chemoradiation versus induction chemotherapy followed by chemoradiation in patients with head and neck squamous cell carcinoma	376 to 414 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 0319	Epidemiological	LACOG	Health-related quality of life in patients with metastatic head and neck cancer treated with immunotherapy in Brazil	200 patients	Brazil

	STUDY NAME	TYPE OF STUDY	SPONSOR / SUPPORT	TITLE	SAMPLE SIZE	COUNTRIES LATAM
GENITOURINARY	LACOG 1518 Urothelial Registry	Epidemiological	LACOG, Janssen	Clinical-pathological Characterization and Outcomes of Metastatic Urothelial Cancer in Latin America: Retrospective and Translational Multicenter Database	204 patients	Brazil, Mexico, Argentina e Guatemala
	LACOG 0515 TESTICULAR REGISTRY	Epidemiological	LACOG	Multicentric database of patients with germ cell tumor with the purpose of clinical and pathological characterization and evaluation of cancer treatment outcomes	1.000 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 0217 IRONMAN	Epidemiological	LACOG, Movember	Prostate Cancer Outcomes: An International Registry to Improve Outcomes in Men with Advanced Prostate Cancer	5.000 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 1818 Metastatic Prostate Registry	Epidemiological	LACOG	Survival outcomes in metastatic prostate cancer in the Brazilian population - analysis of individual characteristics and treatment modalities in different national health institutions	590 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 0218 HERCULES	Clinical Trial	LACOG, MSD	A phase II trial of pembrolizumab combined with cisplatin-based chemotherapy as first-line systemic therapy in advanced penile cancer	33 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 0415 APA in Prostate Cancer	Clinical Trial	LACOG, Janssen	Phase II randomized study of Abiraterone acetate plus ADT versus APALUTAMIDE versus Abiraterone and APALUTAMIDE in patients with advanced prostate cancer with non-castrate testosterone levels	126 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 0519 PEACE III	Clinical Trial	EORTC, Bayer	A Randomized multicenter phase III trial comparing enzalutamide vs. a combination of Ra223 and enzalutamide in asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic castration resistant prostate cancer patients metastatic to bone. PEACE III	560 patients	Brazil
	LACOG 0620 Exbat	Clinical Trial	LACOG, Bayer	Extreme Bipolar Androgen Therapy with Darolutamide and Testosterone Cypionate in Patients with Metastatic Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer (ExBAT trial)	47 patients	Brazil

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PUBLICATIONS

2020 was important to LACOG in terms of scientific production. With a total of 10 articles and 8 abstracts published, this is the biggest number of publications since the foundation of the group.

ARTICLES

The impact of sociodemographic factors and health insurance coverage in the diagnosis and clinicopathological characteristics of breast cancer in Brazil: AMAZONA III study (GBECAM 0115)

Rosa DD, Bines J, Werutsky G, Barrios CH, Cronemberger E, Queiroz GS, de Lima VCC, Freitas-Júnior R, Couto JD, Emerenciano K, Resende H, Crocamo S, Reinert T, Van Eyil B, Nerón Y, Dybal V, Lazaretti N, de Cassia Costamilan R, de Andrade DAP, Mathias C, Vacaro GZ, Borges G, Morelle A, Caleffi M, Filho CS, Mano MS, Zaffaroni F, de Jesus RG, Simon SD.

Breast Cancer Res Treat. 2020 Oct;183(3):749-757

Real-World Prevalence of PD-L1 Expression Among Tumor Samples From Patients With Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer

Gelatti ACZ, Cordeiro de Lima VC, Freitas H, Werutsky G, Gaiger AM, Klock C, Viola PP, Shiang C, de Macedo MP, Lopes LF, De Marchi P, Albino da Silva EC, Moura F, Borges G, Zaffaroni F, Nunes Filho PR, Araujo LH, Mascarenhas E, Mathias C, Barrios C, Zukin M.

Clin Lung Cancer. 2020 Nov;21(6):e511-e515

De-escalation of Neoadjuvant Therapy for HER2-positive Early Breast Cancer: An Overview

Werutsky G, Rosa ML.

Ann Palliat Med. 2020 Jul;9(4):1352-1357

Advanced Renal Cell Carcinoma (RCC) Management: An Expert Panel Recommendation From the Latin American Cooperative Oncology Group (LACOG) and the Latin American Renal Cancer Group (LARCG)

Soares A, Monteiro FSM, Maluf FC, Bastos DA, Jardim DL, Sasse AD, Gonçalves E Silva A, Fay AP, da Rosa DAR, Wierman E, Kater F, Schutz FA, de Oliveira FNG, Morbeck IAP, Rinck JA Jr, da Trindade KM, Maia MC, Souza VC, da Silva Neto DCV, de Almeida E Paula F, Korkes F, Carvalhal GF, Nogueira L, de Carvalho Fernandes R, Dos Reis RB, Matheus WE, Busato WFS Jr, da Costa WH, de Cássio Zequi S.

J Cancer Res Clin Oncol. 2020 Jul;146(7):1829-1845

First-line Treatment of Metastatic Renal Cell Carcinoma in the Immuno-oncology Era: Systematic Review and Network Meta-analysis

Monteiro FSM, Soares A, Debiasi M, Schutz FA, Maluf FC, Bastos DA, Sasse A, Cauduro CGS, Mendes GO, Ziegelmann PK, Fay AP.

J Cancer Res Clin Oncol. 2020 Jul;146(7):1829-1845

ARTICLES

The role of Gallium-prostate-specific membrane antigen positron emission tomography on staging of high-risk localized prostate cancer: for all high-risk patients or would it be better to select them?

Monteiro FSM, Eliam JMS, Gomes de Jesus R, Cavalcante P, Gomes GDV, Hochegger B, Gonçalves VK, Von Wallwitz Freitas L, Roman DH, Fay AP.

Clin Genitourin Cancer. 2020 Aug;18(4):244-251.e4

Use of Immunotherapy in Patients With Cancer During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Soares A, Schutz FA, Bastos DA, Jardim D, Marques Montiero FS.

Oncology (Williston Park). 2020 Sep 15;34(9):370-376

Recommendations for head and neck surgical oncology practice in a setting of acute severe resource constraint during the COVID-19 pandemic: an international consensus

Mehanna H, Hardman JC, Shenson JA, Abou-Foul AK, Topf MC, AlFalasi M, Chan JYK, Chaturvedi P, Chow VLY, Dietz A, Fagan JJ, Godballe C, Golusiński W, Homma A, Hosal S, Iyer NG, Kerawala C, Koh YW, Konney A, Kowalski LP, Kraus D, Kuriakose MA, Kyrodimos E, Lai SY, Leemans CR, Lennon P, Licitra L, Lou PJ, Lyons B, Mirghani H, Nichols AC, Paleri V, Panizza BJ, Parente Arias P, Patel MR, Piazza C, Rischin D, Sanabria A, Takes RP, Thomson DJ, Uppaluri R, Wang Y, Yom SS, Zhu YM, Porceddu SV, de Almeida JR, Simon C, Holsinger FC.

Lancet Oncol. 2020 Jul;21(7):e350-e359.

Health-related quality of life outcomes in head and neck cancer: results from a prospective, real-world data study with Brazilian patients treated with intensity modulated radiation therapy, conformal and conventional radiation techniques

Santos M, Silva LFO, Kohler HF, Curioni O, Vilela R, Fang M, Lima CSP, Gomes JP, Chaves A, Resende B, Trindade K, Collares M, Obst F, Brollo J, Cavalieri R, Ferreira E, Brust L, Rabello D, Domenge C, Kowalski LP.

Lancet Oncol. 2020 Jul;21(7):e350-e359

ABSTRACTS

Phase II randomized study of abiraterone acetate plus prednisone (AAP) added to ADT versus apalutamide alone (APA) versus AAP+APA in patients with advanced prostate cancer with noncastrate testosterone levels: (LACOG 0415)

Werutsky G, Maluf FC, Cronemberger EH, Carrera Souza V, Dos Santos Martins SP, Peixoto F, Smaletz O, Schutz F, Herchenhorn D, Santos T, Mavignier Carcano F, Queiroz Muniz D, Nunes Filho PRS, Zaffaroni F, Barrios C, Fay A.

BMC Cancer. 2019 May 23;19(1):487

LBA12 - PALLAS: A randomized phase III trial of adjuvant palbociclib with endocrine therapy versus endocrine therapy alone for HR+/HER2- early breast cancer

Mayer EL, Gnant MI, DeMichele A, Martin M, Burstein H, Prat A, Rubovszky G, Miller KD, Pfeiler G, Winer EP, Zdenkowski N, Anderson D, Nowecki Z, Loibl S, Fohler H, Metzger O, Fumagalli D, Puyana Theall K, Fesl C, Dueck A.

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A study to observe patients characteristics, treatments patterns and outcomes in patients with newly diagnosed breast cancer in Latin America – LATINA Breast (LACOG 0615/ MO39485)

Werutsky G, Villareal-Garza C, Gomez H, Donaire JM, Bines J, Fein L, Carrizo MN, Zaffaroni F, Nunes Filho PR, Barrios CH.

2020 San Antonio Breast Cancer Virtual Symposium; 2020 Dec 8-11; San Antonio, TX. Philadelphia (PA): AACR; Cancer Res 2021;81(4 Suppl):Abstract r OT-10-01.

Influence of physician's lifestyle on the prescription of healthy habits to breast cancer patients (LACOG 1218)

Cangussú R, Mascarenhas E, Rebelatto TF, Nunes PR, de Jesus RG, Zaffaroni F, Werutsky G.

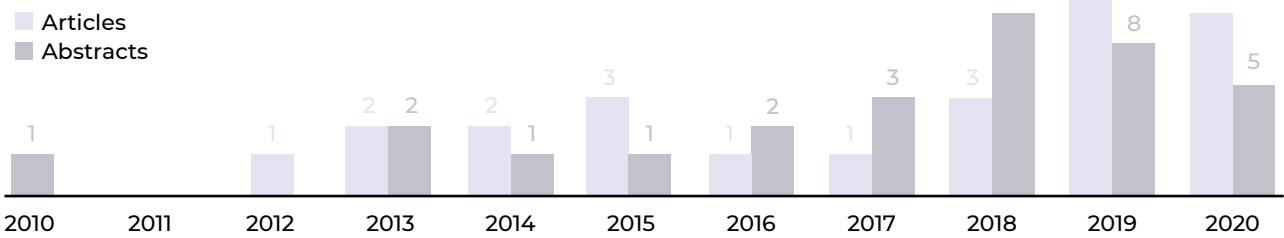
2020 San Antonio Breast Cancer Virtual Symposium; 2020 Dec 8-11; San Antonio, TX. Philadelphia (PA): AACR; Cancer Res 2021;81(4 Suppl):Abstract nr PS7-91.

The socioeconomic impact of breast cancer in Brazil: An analysis of AMAZONA III cohort study

Werutsky G, Rosa DD, Barrios C, Cronemberger E, Queiroz G, Bines J, Rosa ML, Gomes R, Heck AP, Freitas L, da Silva AF, Rodrigues M, Fay AP, Simon S.

2020 San Antonio Breast Cancer Virtual Symposium; 2020 Dec 8-11; San Antonio, TX. Philadelphia (PA): AACR; Cancer Res 2021;81(4 Suppl):Abstract nr PS7-89.

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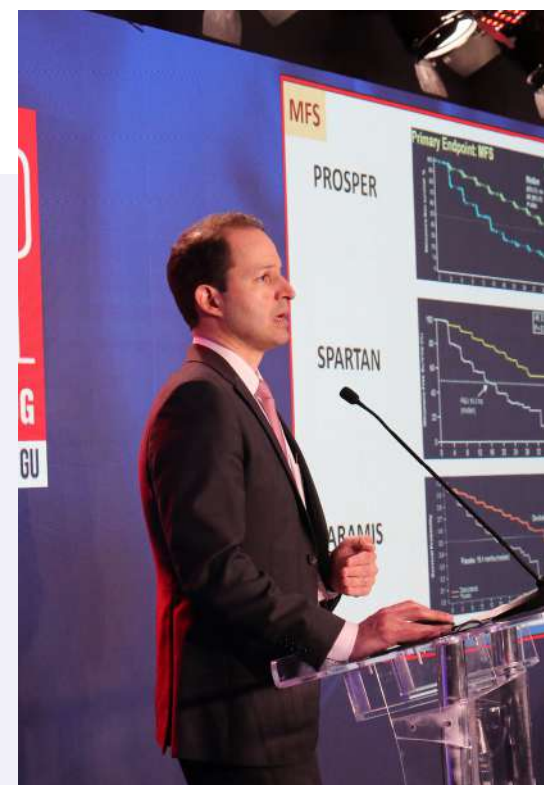


CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

GBOT Virtual Symposium 2020

The Brazilian Thoracic Oncology Group (GBOT) held its 2020 Virtual Symposium, online, on November 6th and 7th. 400 participants took part in the event, including Pneumologists, radio-oncologists, thoracic surgeons, clinical oncologists and other specialists. The objective was to discuss the main advances in the diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer, as well as the latest evidence on tumor markers and the development of new drugs and therapies.

“I believe that this format made the event more interactive, which enabled the participants to discuss topics and share their own experience, instead of just listening to the lectures”, explains Dr. Ana Gelatti, vice president of the GBOT.



LACOG's Genitourinary Group held their 4th GU Review International Symposium 2020 and the 2nd Multi-profession Symposium on October 29th to 31st. As a result of the pandemic, the event was held online and around 1,800 people registered, including clinical oncologists, urologists, radiotherapists, pathologists, radiologists and nuclear physicians from several countries in Latin America, such as Chile, Argentina, Colombia and Mexico.

The main purpose of the event is to provide a review of the published work in the genitourinary field and encourage discussions on how these developments can be applied to help manage diseases such as prostate, bladder and kidney cancer.

“The event was a success. The online format worked very well. As it was held over three days, we were able to offer a very flexible program to participants, with more flexible times, which allowed them to take part in more activities”, said Dr. Diogo Assed Bastos, chair of LACOG's Genitourinary Group.



Best of
ASCO 2020

The Brazilian Edition of Best of ASCO 2020, organized by LACOG and the Instituto Ética, was attended online by 2700 people, from 26 states. The event was held over four days (June 8th to 11th), during which the main studies from ASCO 2020 were presented and there were also discussions on clinical perspectives.

The program consisted of presentations of nine modules: melanoma/sarcoma, genitourinary, gastrointestinal, hematological, breast, hematological, lung, neurology and head and neck.

The Brazilian Edition of Best of ASCO is officially licensed by the American Society of Clinical Oncology which organizes the world most important oncology conference the ASCO Annual Meeting.



The GBCP’s Third Annual Symposium,
First Multi-Disciplinary Support Forum
and Second Forum for Patients with
Head and Neck Cancer

The Brazilian Head and Neck Cancer Group (GBCP) and the LACOG Head and Neck Group held the Third GBCP Annual Symposium for 2020 on November 20th and 21st, which addressed the topic of “Individual Oncology for Head and Neck Cancer - the prognostic and predictive markers for treating it”.

At the same time, the GBCP’s First Multidisciplinary Support Forum was held on November 19th, which examined the topic “Biomarkers for the multidisciplinary treatment of cancer”, and on the 21st, the Second Forum for Patients with Head and Neck Cancer also took place.

The three events were held online and 500 people signed up for them. According to Dr. Aline Lauda Freitas Chaves, the chair of the LACOG Head and Neck Group, the annual GBCP / LACOG- HN events showed how strong the group is and, as these have become the main events in this country for this specialist field, the impact they have had on head and neck oncology in Brazil.



19 COMMUNICATION

2020 has been a year of challenges and changes in communication.

The Covid-19 pandemic produced many different challenges for organizations, among them communication. During 2020, the communications team had to adapt because of the quarantine restrictions - cancelling events and rescheduling others. Major annual conferences, like the LACOG-GBECAM Brazilian Breast Cancer Conference, were cancelled and others had to be revamped so they could take place online. Our team in the LACOG office had to switch to home working, although some normal service resumed for a while as restrictions were relaxed.

Despite all the difficulties and the need to deal with everything urgently and thoughtfully because of the pandemic, we worked ceaselessly to maintain our relationship with our stakeholders. We were able to hold strategic meetings, thanks to online tools, with the representatives of LACOG's groups, to improve communication, explain new policies, plan the release of studies and publications, encourage work and engage with all the investigators. In 2020, our usual gatherings took place on line and as a result the coverage was greater: people from all over Latin America were able to join our events and get updates on the latest on cancer.

In 2020, we also launched a new website for LACOG, which gave the group a new visual identity. The page lists information about the latest ongoing studies, groups and publications, which means members can keep up-to-date with all of LACOG's work in the region. As part of our online strategy, we have increased our presence on social networks, so that we can explain our position and the importance of clinical research in LA, through our campaign "Together we are better", as well as spread our brand's main values: Innovation, Diversity, Collaboration and Credibility.





LACOG PIs CAMPAIGN

In 2020, in order to reach out to its members and encourage them to become investigators and develop new research that could make a difference to oncology research in Latin America, LACOG launched a new campaign: Together we are better.

LACOG can only continue to make a difference if it can encourage new researchers to get involved, either by providing ideas for research or by acting as principal investigators in research at our sites, or, even by writing research articles and materials.

During the second half of 2020, we interviewed a number of investigators, so they could tell us about the importance of a group like LACOG in encouraging scientific research in Latin America, the importance of the role of investigators and of research sites and their investigators in carrying out and confirming studies.

Below is a list of those who took part in the 2020 campaign and the studies they have been conducting.

- Dr. Diogo Assed Bastos, Lead physician at the Oncology Center of the Sírio-Libanês Hospital, investigator and chair of the LACOG Genitourinary Group.

Study: Testicular registry (LACOG 0515).

- Dr. Vinicius Carrera Souza, oncologist at the Instituto D'Or – Bahia, investigator and executive director of the LACOG Genitourinary Group.

Study: Bladder cancer registry (LACOG 1518).

- Dr. Vladmir Cláudio Cordeiro de Lima, medical director at the IQVIA Biotech and investigator with LACOG Lung Group.

Study: Retrospective epidemiological study of locally advanced non-small cell lung cancer (LACOG 0118 – RELANCE).

- Dr. Camilla Yamada, clinical oncologist at the BP – The Beneficência Portuguesa in São Paulo and chair of the LACOG Neuro Group.

Study: Characterization of patients with diffuse gliomas in Brazil (LACOG 0619).

- Dra. Eldsamira Mascarenhas, clinical oncologist at Oncologia D'Or Salvador.

Study: Patient journey with advanced lung cancer positive for ALK fusion in Brazil (LACOG 1918).

- Dr. Rachel Riechelmann, head of Clinical Oncology at the A.C.Camargo Cancer Center, chair of the LACOG Gastrointestinal Group.

Studies :

- Multicenter retrospective database on prognostic and predictive factors in patients with neuroendocrine tumors (LACOG 0119).

- A multicenter retrospective database on prognostic and predictive factors in patients with squamous cell carcinoma of the anus. (LACOG/GTG 1318-CCA).



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PROJETO CURA
INSTITUTE



Projeto
cura.

Juntos,
pesquisando
a cura
do câncer.

1st Brazilian Workshop

In October, the Projeto Cura Institute held the 1st Brazilian workshop on the “Benefits of Research in the Fight against Cancer”. Leading members and patients from Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) from various parts of the country came together to discuss the importance of scientific research. The event was attended by over 200 people.

1º WORKSHOP BRASILEIRO
BENEFÍCIOS DAS PESQUISAS
NO COMBATE AO CÂNCER

CONSCIENTIZAR SOBRE OS BENEFÍCIOS É LUTAR PELA VIDA.

EVENTO
100%
ONLINE

Agradecemos a sua participação!

Realização
Projeto
cura.

2nd Edition of the Renata Thormann Procianoy Award



In 2020, the second edition of the Renata Thormann Procianoy Award was held. It was originally created by the Projeto Cura Institute to encourage and honor Brazilian scientific researchers who have contributed to improving patient treatment and survival.

The 2020 award was won by Dr. Fernando Maluf, an oncologist at the BP - The Beneficência Portuguesa Hospital of São Paulo and the Israelita Albert Einstein Hospital and professor at the Santa Casa de São Paulo School of Medicine. The winner was announced on June 9th, during the Brazilian Edition of Best of ASCO 2020, an authorized event of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), which promotes the largest and most important annual world oncology conferences.

Dr. Maluf is the principal investigator in a completely Brazilian study that assessed a new drug for use against prostate cancer in advanced stages. The study was coordinated by LACOG and involved 14 research sites and several Brazilian oncologists. The paper, presented at ASCO, involved 128 patients who received drugs that prevented testosterone being delivered to cancer cells.

Scientific Committee

Last year, the institute also created a scientific committee, composed of doctors from several Brazilian institutions, in order to work together on activities and across social networks for the Projeto Cura Institute.



Cancer Research support campaigns over-achieved

The Projeto Cura Institute, based in Brazil, is the only organization in Latin America dedicated to planning and carrying out awareness campaigns and fundraising drives to support research into combating cancer. In 2020, the institute developed, in partnership with GBCP – the Brazilian Group for Head and Neck Tumors / LACOG, a crowdfunding campaign to raise money to pay for a thousand tests for four GBCP research projects.

The campaign beat all expectations and raised over BRL 180 thousand, as a result of which 1,400 laboratory tests were funded. The initiative was supported by doctors, celebrities, digital influencers and patients. As well as coming together to raise funds, the campaign raised awareness of the importance of supporting research in Brazil.

Another of the institute's initiatives was to create an online financing campaign to raise funds to cover the initial costs of phase III of the Neosamba research project, which focuses on reducing the risk of HER2-negative breast cancer recurrence. The activity produced BRL 20 thousand in donations for the research registry.



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