



School of Medicine

ANNUAL REPORT

2019–2020

ANNEX VI – Post-Graduation Report 2020

University of Minho



School of Medicine

Post-graduation-Report Academic Year 2019-2020

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1. Overview

The academic year 2019-2020 was unique given the situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemics. This had an impact in all academic activities, most noticeably in the international program of advanced courses, since this usually counts with hundreds of participants and lecturers that commute from other regions of the country and from abroad. Most courses scheduled for April-October were postponed, with a few adapting to the e-format.

The academic year 2019/2020 brought the following highlights to report:

-The formal accreditation, by the national accreditation agency A3ES, of the PhD programs in Health Sciences and in Medicine, for an additional period of 6 years. The evaluators report recognizes the quality of our programs and the plans presented for the years to come.

-The formal acceptance, by the A3ES of the new master program in Assessment in Health Professions Education. This program, that counts with the collaboration of the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME, USA) and with renowned teaching staff formally affiliated with the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER). This program constitutes an opportunity to further promote assessment of quality in medical education and is expected to foster research in medical education. The first class is expected to enroll in 2021.

-The formal launching and starting of operations of the B'ACIS Association (Association for Science, Innovation and Health). This novel asset of the School/ICVS cluster will foster the entrepreneurship activities and the training opportunities given its flexible structure and competences.

A final note, at the University level, for the establishment of a doctoral college comprising all schools of the University of Minho. This college intends to foster the quality and the opportunities of the PhD programs. The EM will certainly contribute and benefit from the experience and expertise of the other colleagues and students, and novel training opportunities are likely to emerge.

Following please find a detailed report of the activities.

2. Master and PhD programs

The present report includes the information related to the academic year 2019/2020 (September 2019 - July 2020).

With respect to formal degrees, the School of Medicine (EM) presently a Master in Health Sciences and 3 PhD degrees: in Health Sciences, in Medicine (including a track, the MD/PhD, in which medical students start the PhD before finishing the medical degree) and in Aging and Chronic Diseases (PhDOC).

While there are no scholarships for the Master degrees, PhD students can get scholarships from the Portuguese Science Foundation (FCT, either on a national call for individual scholarships or by applying to funded FCT-PhD

programs), from other national sources, including Portugal 2020 specific calls, and also from Marie Curie training networks and other international funded projects.

In 2019/2020, the following programs supported the EM students:

- FCT MD/PhD program awarded to the EM.
- FTC PhD program in Health Sciences (Applied), awarded to the EM, which is a program affiliated with companies and spin-offs (BIAL, BNML Enlightenment Eurotrials, iCognitus, iSurgical3D, José de Mello Saúde, Têxtil Manuel Gonçalves and Stematters).
- FCT-PhD inter-institutional program in Aging and Chronic Diseases, a joint program with the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Coimbra and the NOVA Medical School of the NOVA University of Lisbon.
- FCT national call for scholarships.
- NORTE 2020, 2014–2020 North Portugal Regional Operational Programme.
- Marie Curie-Skłodowska Innovative Training Network, H2020-MSCA-ITN-2016ITN, ESR14.
- The PGCD, Graduate Program Science for Development (Gulbenkian/PALOP).
- Protocol SENESCYT, Inter-Institutional Cooperation Agreement between the Secretaría de Educación Superior, Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación da Republica do Ecuador and the University of Minho.

In the academic year 2019/2020 (September 2019/July 2020), 20 new students enrolled in our PhD programs (19 in Health Sciences, of which 8 in the PhDiHES track, 1 in Medicine) and 15 enrolled in the Master program in Health Sciences. On the other hand, until the end of July, 16 students successfully completed their programs: 13 PhD students (4 in Medicine, 5 in Health Sciences and 4 in Aging and Chronic Diseases), and 3 Master students. During the academic year of 2019/2020, the EM had a combined total of 31 Master and 98 PhD students. Of the latter, 63 were enrolled in the Health Sciences (of which 27 in the PhDiHES track), 15 in the PhDOC and 20 in the Medicine degrees (of which 10 in the MD/PhD track).

Given the COVID-19 epidemics, the specific open day to present our programs to potential candidates for the next academic year was cancelled.

3. Advanced courses

The postgraduate offer of EM continued normally with several courses offered. Several, were, however, postponed and a few changed their format to comply with the current circumstances.

3.1. Courses offered

From September 1st 2019 until July 31st 2020, **40** courses planned. The list represents these courses with an indication on whether they took place or were cancelled/postponed. Over **621** participants attended these courses.

ROBOTIC SURGERY AND 3D ADVANCED LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY FOR UROLOGISTS

Organizers: Carlos Vaz; Estevão Lima e Jorge Correia-Pinto

September 4-5, 2019 ::: 1st Edition

ROBOTIC SURGERY AND 3D ADVANCED LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY FOR GENERAL SURGEONS

Organizers: Carlos Vaz; Estevão Lima e Jorge Correia-Pinto
September 6-7, 2019 ::: 1st Edition

OPERATING ROOM NURSE MASTERCLASS ON ROBOTIC SURGERY

Organizers: Carlos Vaz; Estevão Lima e Jorge Correia-Pinto
September 6-7, 2019 ::: 1st Edition

FUNDAMENTALS IN GENETICS, DEVELOPMENT AND NEOPLASIA

Organizers: Bruno Costa, Fátma Baltazar, Rute Moura e Sandra Costa
September 9-27, 2019 ::: 11th Edition

ADVANCED EMR AND ESD WORKSHOP

Organizers: Carla Rolanda, Arjun Koch e Jorge Correia-Pinto
September 12-13, 2019 ::: 3rd Edition

ATAM - ADVANCED TECHNIQUES FOR AIRWAY MANAGEMENT

Organizers: Sara Hora Gomes
September 16-19, 2019 ::: 1st Edition

PEDIATRIC ENDOSCOPY

Organizers: Henedina Antunes, Carla Rolanda e Jorge Correia-Pinto
September 19-21, 2019 ::: 9th Edition

FETAL AND NEONATAL ENDOSCOPIC SURGERY

Organizers: Jorge Correia-Pinto e Catarina Barroso
September 25-27, 2019 ::: 11th Edition

FUNDAMENTALS IN NEUROSCIENCE

Organizers: Fernanda Marques, Hugo Almeida e Tiago Gil Oliveira
September 30 - October 18, 2019 ::: 12th Edition

CAPSULE ENDOSCOPY TRAINING PROGRAM

Organizers: José Cotter e Bruno Rosa
October 2-4, 2019 ::: 4th Edition

FUNDAMENTALS IN IMMUNOLOGY AND INFECTION

Organizers: Egídio Torrado, Jorge Pedrosa e Agostinho Carvalho
October 21 - November 8, 2019 ::: 11th Edition

BASIC ENDOSCOPIC TECHNIQUES

Organizers: Carla Rolanda
November 5, 2019 ::: 2nd Edition

ADVANCED ENDOSCOPIC TECHNIQUES

Organizers: Carla Rolanda
November 6, 2019 ::: 2nd Edition

INTENSIVE COMMUNICATION SKILLS COURSE

Organizers: Pedro Morgado, João Cerqueira e Vítor Hugo Almeida
November 7-9, 2019 ::: 3rd Edition

BASIC LAPAROSCOPY FOR RESIDENTS

Organizers: João Nuno Torres, Vera Trocado, Paulo Mota, Jorge Correia-Pinto
November 8-9, 2019 ::: 17th Edition

MINIMALLY INVASIVE SPINE SURGERY

Organizers: Rui Duarte, Bruno Santos e Pedro Varanda
November 15-16, 2019 ::: 8th Edition

SULCI, GYRI, VENTRICLES AND DISSECTING FIBERS

Organizers: Nuno Sousa, Carlos Alegria e Rui Almeida
November 18-22, 2019 ::: 17th Edition

BIOINFORMATICS IN HEALTH SCIENCES

Organizers: Bruno Costa e Nuno Osório
November 11-29, 2019 ::: 11th Edition

ARTERIAL STIFFNESS AND EARLY VASCULAR AGING

Organizers: Nuno Sousa, Pedro Cunha e Jorge Cotter
November 27-29, 2019 ::: 7th Edition

RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES

Organizers: Manuel João Costa
December 2-20, 2019 ::: 11th Edition

BIostatISTICS IN HEALTH SCIENCES

Organizers: Patrício Costa
January 6-24, 2020 ::: 10th Edition

PREMIUM CATARACT SURGERY

Organizers: Fernando Silva
January 18, 2020 ::: 10th Edition

LABORATORY ANIMAL SCIENCE

Organizers: Magda Castelhana-Carlos, Alice Miranda, Margarida Correia-Neves
January 27 - February 7, 2020 ::: 15th Edition

ERCP - FROM BASICS TO EXPERTISE

Organizers: Luis Lopes, Jorge Canena
January 31 - February 1, 2020 ::: 3rd Edition

BEING A BIO-ENTREPRENEUR

Organizers: Bruno Costa, Luísa Pinto, Patrícia Patrício
February 10-28, 2020 ::: 6th Edition

RECENT TRENDS IN CNS REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

Organizers: António Salgado
March 2-20, 2020 ::: 1st Edition

EPIDEMIOLOGY

Organizers: Jaime Correia de Sousa, Luís Figueiredo, Pedro Teixeira
March 9 - April 24, 2020 ::: 3rd Edition

The following courses were cancelled/postponed:

FOOT AND ANKLE SPORTS MEDICINE

Organizers: Hélder Pereira, Bruno Pereira, Manuel Vieira da Silva, Jorge Correia-Pinto
November 22-23, 2019 ::: 5th Edition

MULTIVARIATE DATA ANALYSIS - METHODS FOR GROUPING VARIABLES

Organizers: Patrício Costa
March 25, 2020 ::: 1st Edition

MULTIVARIATE DATA ANALYSIS - METHODS FOR GROUPING SUBJECTS

Organizers: Patrício Costa
April 16, 2020 ::: 1st Edition

PSYCHIATRY AND MENTAL HEALTH

Organizers: Pedro Morgado, João Bessa
April 17 - May 8, 2020 ::: 6th Edition

OTOLOGY SURGERY

Organizers: Miguel Breda, Daniel Alves Miranda, Filipa Moreira, Jorge Correia-Pinto
April 20-24, 2020 ::: 1st Edition

TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP IN HEALTHCARE

Organizers: Pedro Morgado, Alberto Abreu da Silva, Diogo Fernandes da Silva, Isabel Azevedo
April 25 - June 13, 2020 ::: 4th Edition

MULTIVARIATE DATA ANALYSIS - INTRODUCTION TO STRUCTURAL EQUATION MODELING AND PATH ANALYSIS

Organizers: Patrício Costa

April 28-29, 2020 ::: 1st Edition

BILIARY LAPAROSCOPY

Organizers: Alberto Martinez Isla, Jaime Vilaça, Daniela Sá Leão, Jorge Correia-Pinto
May 4-6, 2020 ::: 10th Edition

IMAGING THE BEHAVING BRAIN WITH MINISCOPIES

Organizers: Tiago Gil Oliveira, Luís Jacinto, Patrícia Monteiro
May 4-8, 2020 ::: 1st Edition

CAPSULE ENDOSCOPY TRAINING PROGRAM

Organizers: José Cotter e Bruno Rosa
May 20-22, 2020 ::: 5th Edition

COMPUTATIONAL DATA ANALYSIS

Organizers: Luís Jacinto, Patrícia Monteiro
May 21-29, 2020 ::: 1st Edition

EVALUATION AND TREATMENT OF INFERTILE COUPLE

Organizers: Rui Miguelote, João Luís Silva Carvalho
May 29-30, 2020 ::: 4th Edition

GYNECOLOGICAL LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY

Organizers: Hélder Ferreira, João Bernardes, Cristina Nogueira-Silva
June 4-6, 2020 ::: 12th Edition

Detailed information on the courses is available at www.med.uminho.pt/en/post-graduation/courses.

3.2. Participants

Figure 1 presents the professional background distribution of the 621 participants (attending the courses offered until the end of July). Similar to previous editions, the vast majority of the participants were medical doctors (348), which reflects the commitment of EM in pursuing continuous medical education as well as the acceptance of the medical community, not only in the country but also abroad.

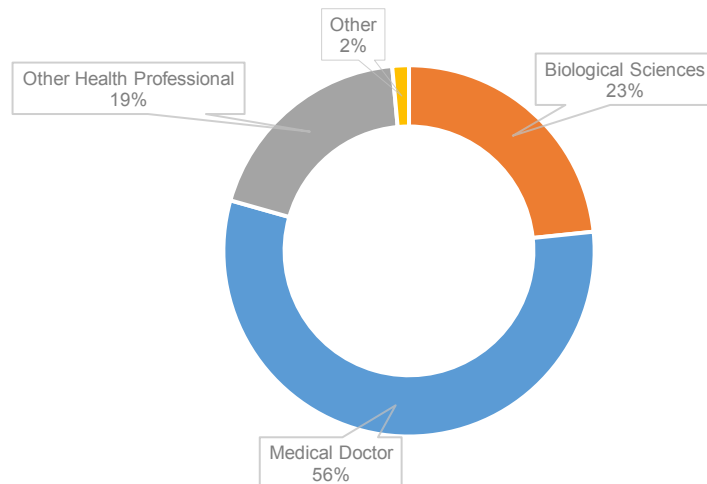


Figure 1 - Background distribution of the participants ("Other Health Professionals" include participants having as background pharmacy, psychology or clinical analysis and public health; "Others" include participants having as background polymer, biotechnological, biological, food technology or chemical engineering).

Figure 2 presents the institutional origin of the participants.

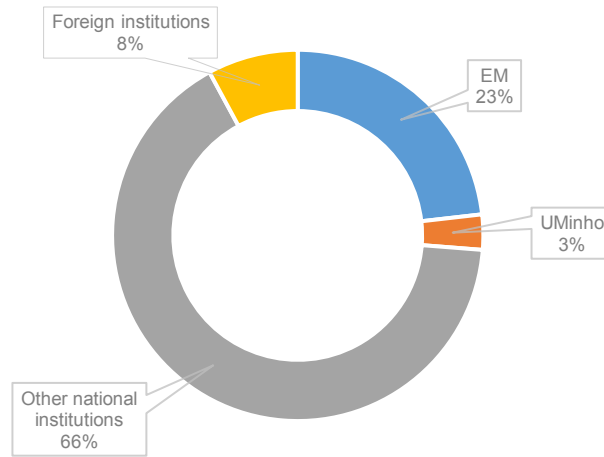


Figure 2 – Participants’ affiliation.

The great majority of the participants (458) belong to Institutions other than the University of Minho, of which 49 originate from foreign institutions; showing the ability to attract interest from outside our own institution and country.

3.3. Global assessment

The questionnaires of evaluation (for the courses until July) A questionnaire was filled by **351** out of the **621** total participants (56% response rate), to evaluate several aspects of each course. The overall evaluation provided the results presented in Figure 3; 86% of the participants considered the courses very good or excellent.

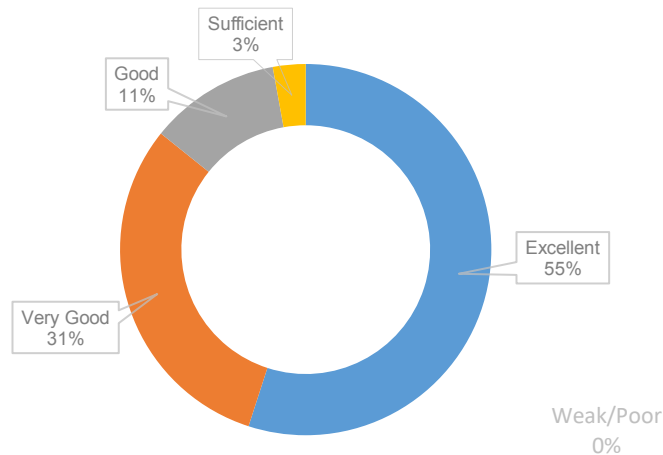


Figure 3 – Evaluation results.

4. Courses for residents

In collaboration with the Alumni Medicina Association, the offer of hands-on introductory and advanced courses addressing specialized competencies for residents in various medical specialties consisted in the initiatives specified below. Due to the COVID-19, the 2020 edition of the iPsychiatry course was postponed.

4.1. InAnesthesia

"InAnesthesia" is an intensive training program, nationwide, addressed to all newly admitted residents in anesthesiology. It is recognized by the Anesthesiology College of Portuguese Medical Association (Ordem dos Médicos), the Portuguese Anesthesiology Society and CAR – Portuguese Regional Anesthesia Club (ESRA). The course is divided in two modules. The first, "InAnesthesia - Introduction to Clinical Anesthesiology", occurs in the first week of the internship work. It consists of five intense days focused on the theoretical basis for clinical practice in Anesthesiology, and on training of specific skills in high-fidelity simulators (monitoring, arterial and venous catheterization, airway manipulation, induction of general anesthesia and regional anesthesia). Participants also contact with simulated patients to learn the clinical interview technique and how to handle the patient who will be anesthetized. The second, "InAnesthesia - Advanced Simulation" is a 2-day program, aimed at all Anesthesiology residents, regardless of the degree of training, where participants are exposed to complex situations based on real cases and are trained in various techniques and team management as well as in communication issues in crisis situations.

In 2020 the InAnesthesia - Introduction to Clinical Anesthesiology had its 10th edition, with a total of 80 participants and more than 60 trainers. Participants rated the introductory course as very good (40%) or excellent (60%). Due to the Covid-19 pandemic limitations, in 2020, the "InAnesthesia - Advanced Simulation" was postponed.

Since its launching, InAnesthesia – Introduction to clinical Anesthesiology enrolled 543 residents and 450 trainers.

4.2. iGo

"iGo" – Introduction to the Gynecology and Obstetrics Residence is a course of five days, addressed to all newly admitted residents in Gynecology and Obstetrics in Portugal. It is recognized and strongly recommended by the Gynecology and Obstetrics College of Portuguese Medical Association (Ordem dos Médicos), the FSPOG (Federation of Portuguese Obstetrics and Gynecology Societies and their affiliated societies), and the PoNTOG (The Portuguese Network of Trainees in Obstetrics and Gynaecology). The main aim is to provide theoretical and practical bases to colleagues to start their training in this specialty,

consisting of an intensive course in which it was approached in a simple and pragmatic way, useful aspects for the beginning of their professional career.

In 2020 the iGO had its first edition, with 49 participants (the total number of residents of Gynecology and Obstetrics of the 1st year, in 2020) and 66 trainers of 28 Portuguese hospital services. Regarding the organization, 34% of participants rated the iGO as very good and 58.9% as excellent. Participants rated the sessions overall as very good (34%) or excellent (66%).

4.3. iNeurology

iNeurology is an advanced course addressed for first year residents of Neurology in Portugal. The program of this course consists mainly of hands-on workshops and skills labs, complemented with short introductory seminars and a final skills-based assessment that is used for constructive feedback and as a stimulus to learning. Importantly, the focus is on competency acquisition and training, with the students rotating in small groups (3 to 4) through the different stations and scenarios, set up with the use of standardized patients and state of the art mannequins and high-fidelity simulators (for coma, seizures and others).

In 2019/2020 the course had its 8th edition with 26 participants from the entire country, corresponding to 90% of the first year Neurology residents in Portugal in 2020.

4.4. Courses in clinical communication

Communication is a core competency in the practice of Psychiatry, of relevance for the follow-up of patients. Three courses were offered between September of 2019 and July of 2020: Clinical Communication in Psychosis (October) and Assessment and Diagnosis of Anxiety Disorders (February and March). Both intended to train and certify skills and competences in the field of communication, diagnosis, and therapeutic orientation of patients. The target audience were psychiatrists and family doctors, allowing in-context training and using standardized patients (actors) and feedback based on the training provided by a team with experience in this area. The courses were embedded in the activities of the Clinical Skills Lab of School of Medicine of University of Minho. Each course consisted of a 10 hours' program, with brief theoretical presentations and in-context training with clinical stories trained by standardized patients.

In 2019, the Clinical Communication in Psychosis course was offered once, with 16 participants; in 2020, the Assessment and Diagnosis of Anxiety Disorders had two editions with a total of 49 participants. In July of 2020, given the pandemic context an adapted Clinical Communication edition was provided online with a patient with diabetes. The target audience were family doctors, with 22 participants.

The courses were highly appreciated by the participants.

4.5. SIM-ARENA

SIM-ARENA is a one-day team competition directed to final year medical students and residents from different specialties. It uses simulation-based learning and gamification to create a realistic and engaging environment to the participants. The task of each team is to solve clinical scenarios in different settings (pre-hospital emergency care, emergency room, intensive care units, outpatients clinic, wards). The scenarios use standardized patients and high-fidelity simulators, and aim to train technical skills, clinical reasoning, and communication. The competition and the scenarios are facilitated by clinical experts from the affiliated hospitals of the School of Medicine. The 2019 edition enrolled 40 participants from more than 9 specialties. The 2020 edition was scheduled to October but was postponed due to COVID-19.

5. Transferable skills training

In 2018-2019 a program of transferable skills was implemented, targeting students and supervisors. These were highly appreciated by supervisors and students; and was further extended in the academic year 2019/2020.

Following is the list of workshops offered in the present academic year.

5.1 Workshops for students and supervisors

Communication and Interpersonal Relationship

- 1st Edition | December 4th 2019
- 2nd Edition | April 29th 2020

Competences and self-knowledge

- 1st Edition | November 13th 2019

Creativity

- 1st Edition | February 7th 2020
- 2nd Edition | May 28th 2020

Team work

- 1st Edition | December 6th 2019
- 2nd Edition | May 20th 2020

Time management

- 1st Edition | December 17th 2019
- 2nd Edition | May 13th 2020

5.2 Workshops for students

CV and motivation letter

- 1st Edition | November 19th 2019
- 2nd Edition | January 21st 2020

Preparation for selection interviews

- 1st Edition | January 21st 2020
- 2nd Edition | June 12th 2020

5.3 Workshops for supervisors

Conflict Management

- 1st Edition | April 29th 2020

Emotional intelligence

- 1st Edition | December 10th 2019
- 2nd Edition | June 2nd 2020

Leadership

- 1st Edition | February 7th 2020

6. Sponsors

In 2019-2020 we obtained financial support from several companies: Abbvie, Bayer Portugal, Boehringer Ingelheim, Boston Scientific, Enzifarma, Fujifilm, Gedeon Richter, Hidden Hearing, Medtronic Portugal, Nippon Gases and Olympus. We are grateful to our sponsors for the helpful contribution for this international program of courses and workshops in biomedical sciences.

In recognition of the support by our sponsors, the EM/ICVS displays in its main hall a plate with the indication of their contribution. All sponsors were invited to participate in the day of the ICVS, in which a specific mention on the relevance of their support was publicly acknowledged.