

Adult clinical trial participation across the RCN: how do we compare to the rest of Canada?

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Introduction

- Patient participation and access to clinical trials is a **key measure of the delivery of quality cancer care**.
- Patients treated in cancer centres with active clinical trial programs tend to have improved outcomes (e.g., survival and quality of life) than those treated at institutions without clinical trials.
- One of the main reasons given by patients for not taking part in a clinical trial is that **they didn't know the studies were an option for them**. Fewer than 5% of adults with cancer will take part in a clinical trial, while 60% of children under age 15 do (*Source: American Cancer Society*). This is one reason that survival rates for childhood cancer have increased so dramatically in the last few decades.
- Improved **coordination**, dedicated **resources**, and **collaboration** between sites are essential to the success clinical research activities across the RCN.

Progress to date

Period	Goal	Status	Impact
2015-16	Map the clinical research landscape across the RCN	COMPLETED	Better understanding of clinical research activities. Needed for website development and metrics collection.
	Create a RCN clinical trials website listing all trials	COMPLETED	Decision-making tool for treatment on trials, available to physicians AND patients. Provides patients with greater treatment options.
2016-17	Publish the first public metrics report on enrolment to trials	COMPLETED	Provides a baseline for accrual (previously unknown) across the McGill academic centers
	Raise clinical trial awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post lists • Bring lists to tumour boards • Discuss trials at DS steering committees • Monthly DS newsletter 	COMPLETED	Provides greater options for treatment.

Clinical research landscape

Are we missing a research group? Let us know!

MUHC	JGH	SMHC
CIM Dr. Alcindor / P. Chipman NRG Dr. Souhani / M. Perna NRG-breast Dr. Thirwell / S. Moreno Multiple Myeloma Dr. Sebag / N. Renouf GY Dr. Gilbert / A. Dumont HPB Dr. Metrakos / A. Salman	CRU Dr. Miller / A. Cascini CRP Dr. Kavan / A. Mamo NRG Dr. Boileau / L. Robitaille RT Dr. Vuong / H. Lamarre GU Dr. Bladou / O. Lotouchin	CRP Dr. Langleben / R. Sharma

The Clinical Director and Clinical Manager are indicated for each research group. Only research groups providing cancer treatment-based clinical trials are included.

Clinical research activities

Fig 1: Ratio of adult patients enrolled in treatment-based clinical trials to number of incident cases – 2016

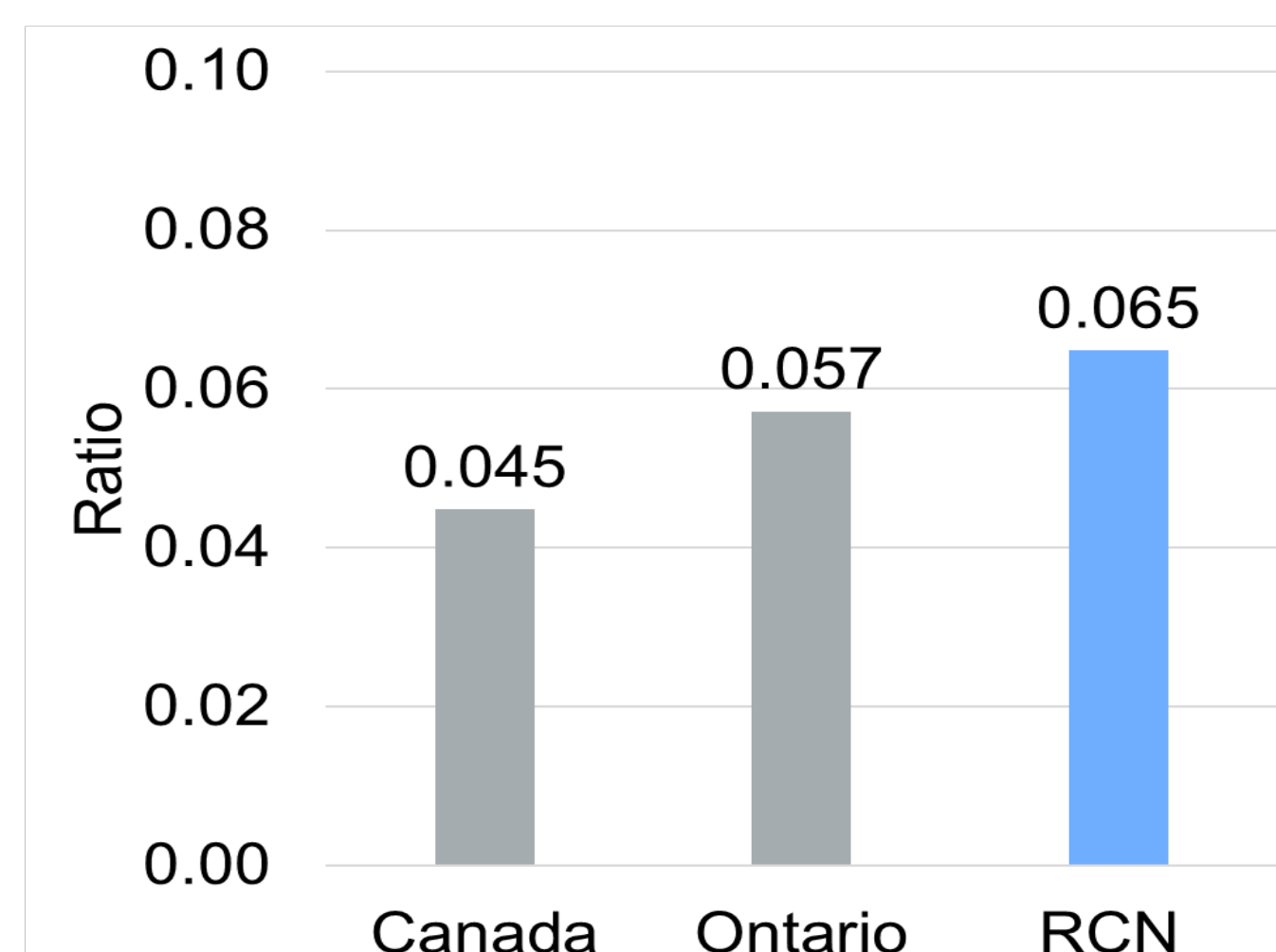


Fig 2: Ratio of adult patients at the RCN enrolled in clinical trials to number of incident cases by disease site – 2016 enrolment year

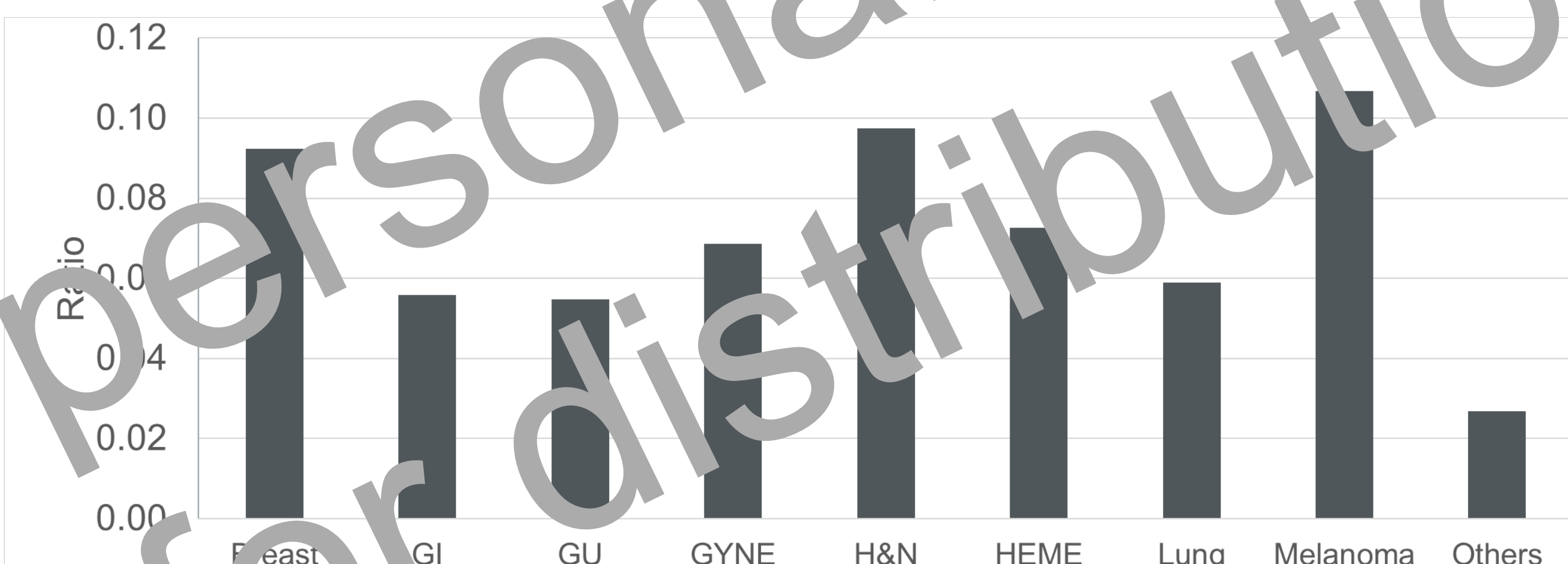
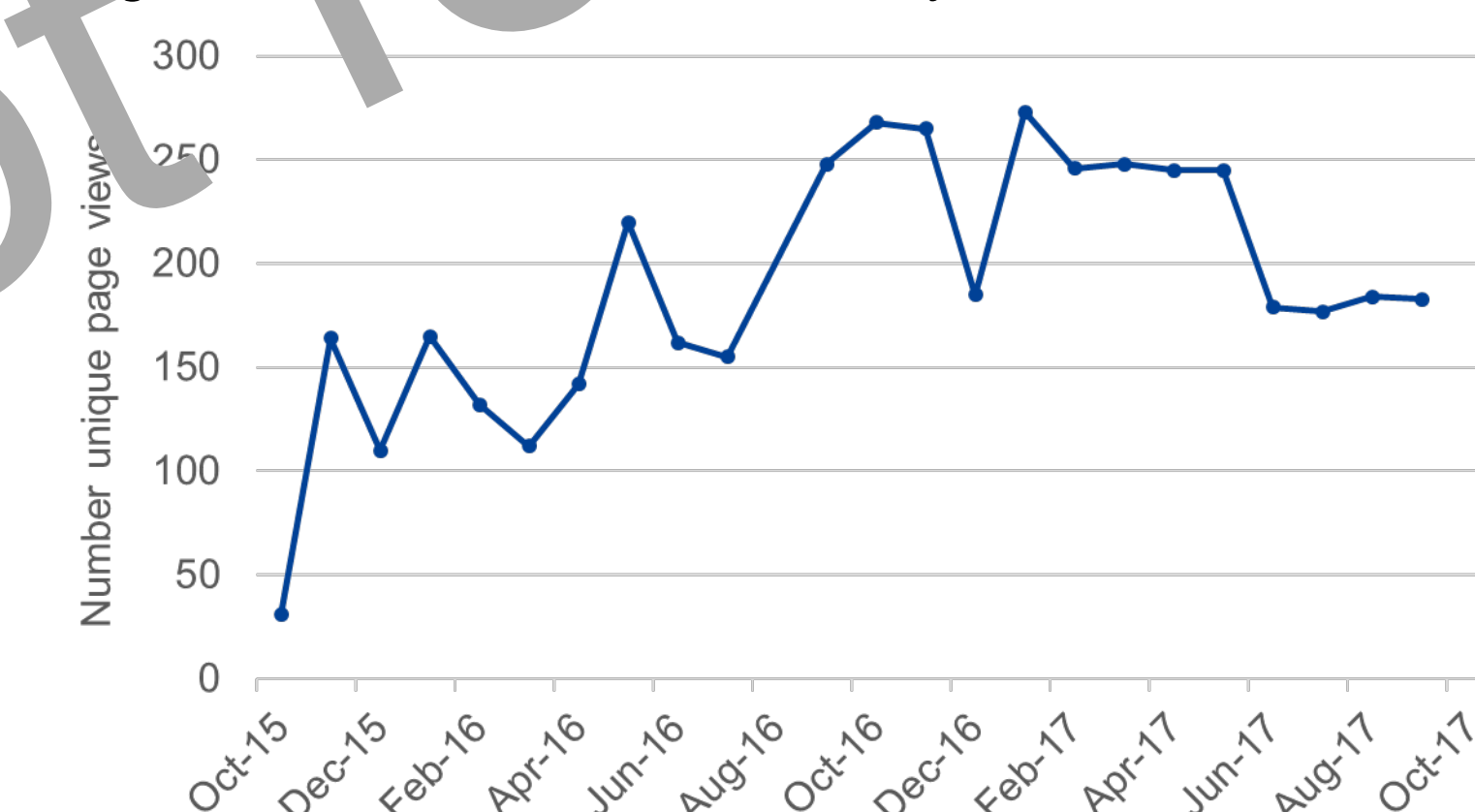


Fig 3: RCN clinical trials monthly website views



Approximately 150 treatment-based clinical trials are listed on the RCN web site by disease site group and all solid tumours separately.

The web site consistently gets about 200 UNIQUE page views per month.

Key Messages

- ❖ Close to 150 trials are available for all cancer types and for many disciplines, including radiation oncology, medical oncology, and surgery, across the partner hospitals of the RCN. These can be viewed on the at www.mcgill.ca/rcr-rcn/clinical-trials
- ❖ Not all trials are available at all RCN partner hospitals. Patients can be referred across the RCN to access different clinical trials.
- ❖ The RCN performs above the Canadian average for accrual of patients to treatment-based clinical trials. The JGH has the highest accrual to trials, keeping in mind though that 2016 was a year of transition for clinical research activities at the MUHC and SMHC.

Methods

The numerator was obtained from the clinical managers overseeing clinical research activities at all of the RCN hospitals. The denominator was obtained from the cancer registries.

Definition	Ratio of the total number of all patients aged 19 years or older newly enrolled in cancer-related treatment-based clinical trials to the number of new incident cancer cases
Data Source	Cancer registry, Clinical Research Groups
Numerator	Number of cancer patients (≥19 years) newly enrolled in cancer-related treatment-based clinical trials at MUHC, JGH and SMHC. For patients enrolled in multiple clinical trials, all occurrences were counted.
Denominator	Number of new invasive cancer cases (≥19 years). In-situ cancer cases other than bladder were not included in the denominator.
Exclusions	Patients enrolled in trials for cancer prevention, screening, diagnosis, quality of life, economics of care, biobanking and patient registries, were not included.
Measurement timeframe	Yearly
Notes	The definition use for patients enrolled was the following: Number of patients who have been screened and registered in a treatment-based clinical trial. Screen failures were not counted. Withdrawals were included. For example: You screen 100 patients to enroll 25. The numerator would be 25.

Discussion...let's talk!

- Why a ratio? Is this the best measure of clinical trial activities?
- Should we include non-interventional trials (ex. tumour registry trials, QOL)?
- Should we include interventional trials that are not cancer treatment-based (ex. effect of exercise or nutrition pre-surgery on recovery after surgery)?
- Is our denominator the best one (new cancer cases)?

These are all valid questions!

When looking at the literature, there is no consensus on how best to report clinical trial metrics. These are reported in various way and frequently, the way in which the data was collected is not indicated. We chose CPAC's data definitions for our analysis. Ultimately, consistency in our data collection and inter-hospital comparisons will provide the most useful benchmark moving forward.

Moving forward → 2018 and beyond....

- AUTOMATE web site updates
 - Implement a Clinical Trial Management System (EDGE vs NAGANO) - pilot proposed for JGH
- IMPROVE WEBSITE SEARCHABILITY
- PRE-SCREEN PATIENTS FOR TRIAL ELIBILITY
 - Clinical trial accrual project has been initiated in breast to achieve 20% accrual in 2019
- IMPROVE ACCRUAL AND FACILITATE CLINICAL TRIAL TRANSFERS
 - Clinical trial agreement between CRP at JGH and SMHC for trial reciprocity
 - Facilitators to ensure patients are properly transferred between institutions for trial access.
- MORE IDEAS
 - Inclusion of other Montreal hospital trials on the RCN website (ex. CHUM)
 - Capture accrual in cancer registry
 - Patients navigator available to direct patients to trials
 - Listing non-interventional trials or non-treatment trials on the RCN web site

For questions, contact caroline.rousseau@mail.mcgill.ca