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Service (sector) Epidemiology - Clinical Trials Nº CEP

CLINICAL RESEARCH AT THE DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY OF THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF SÃO PAULO (UNIFESP-EPM)

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Purpose: To evaluate the number of clinical research projects from the Department of Ophthalmology submitted to the Ethics Committee (EC) of UNIFESP-EPM as well as identify the percentage of projects from Research Days presentations submitted since 2001. **Methods:** Retrospective study. It was reviewed the database of the Ethics Committee of UNIFESP-EPM. Results: From the total of projects that were submitted to the EC-UNIFESP in the last 4 years, approximately 10% were from the Department of Ophthalmology. We observed an increasing rate of 46,61% in development of clinical research projects by the Department of Ophthalmology in such period. We also found that the Research Days presentations represented 31% from the total of the ophthalmology projects submitted to the EC. From the total of papers presented at Research Days between 2001-2004, 70% were not found in the EC database. In 2001, 19% of the projects regarding Research Days presentations were submitted to the EC, 81% of projects were not found in the EC database; in 2002, 24% of the projects were submitted to the EC and 76% were not localized in the EC database; in 2003, 41% of the projects were submitted to the EC and 59% were not found; in 2004, 35% of the projects were submitted to the EC and 65% were not found in the EC database. **Conclusions**: It was observed an important increasing in the number of clinical research projects submitted to the EC-UNIFESP and it means scientific and technological advances as well as the care of researchers to ensure studies ethically conducted. The Department of Ophthalmology is one of the main departments of UNIFESP that develop and conduct clinical research. We assume that it is necessary to find an efficient way to educate and incentive all researchers to submit their researches to the Ethics Committee and it is important to identify the reasons why some researchers don't submit their projects to EC.