

# Course on Understanding clinical trials

Porto (Portugal), 14-16 May 2012

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## Objectives

Clinical trials play a leading role in the evaluation of the effect of interventions, pharmacological and others.

In this course, methodological and strategic issues in the design and conduct of clinical trials will be discussed. Hierarchies of evidence to support clinical and public health practice will be explored.

We aim to prepare critical readers of the medical literature, and to contribute to train professionals able to design investigator-driven clinical trials, and to support clinicians and deciders at different levels of the healthcare systems.

Rules for conducting clinical trials in Portugal will be addressed.

## Information

**Fee:** Students (former and current) and UP staff - €150; persons external of UP - €200

**Language:** Portuguese

**Place:** Instituto de Saúde Pública da Universidade do Porto - Rua das Taipas, nº 135, Porto (Portugal)

### Contact:

#### Gabinete de Pós-graduação

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**Online application:** The registration process is done at <http://www.epidemiologia.med.up.pt>

**Registration deadline:** 7th May 2012

## DETAILED PROGRAMME

### MONDAY, 14TH MAY

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>09.00-10.00</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Opening. Course objectives. Experimental research.<br/><i>Ana Azevedo</i></li></ul> |
|                    | Pause   |
| <b>10.30-12.30</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Clinical development of medicines.<br/><i>Luís de Almeida</i></li></ul>             |
|                    | Lunch   |
| <b>14.00-15.15</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Systematic errors in assessing the effect of drugs.</li></ul>                       |
| <b>15.15-16.30</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Design of clinical trials.<br/><i>Ana Azevedo</i></li></ul>                         |

### TUESDAY, 15TH MAY

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <b>09.00-10.30</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Target population: inclusion and exclusion criteria. Outcomes. Measuring effects. <i>NNT</i>. Sample size.<br/><i>Ana Azevedo</i></li></ul> |
|                    | Pause   |
| <b>11.00-12.30</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Explanatory and pragmatic trials. Intention-to-treat. Efficacy and effectiveness.<br/><i>Ana Azevedo</i></li></ul>                          |
|                    | Lunch   |
| <b>14.00-15.15</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The experimental drug in the hospital pharmaceutical department.<br/><i>Paulo Carinha</i></li></ul>   |
| <b>15.15-16.30</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Documents and monitoring.<br/><i>Ana Marta Oliveira, Cristiana Mota, Murielle Dardenne</i></li></ul>  |

### WEDNESDAY, 16TH MAY

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|---------------------|--|
| <b>09.00 -11.00</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Participating in clinical trials – perspective of an institution.<br/><i>António Ferreira</i></li><li>Participating in clinical trials – perspective of a clinician.<br/><i>Helena Pessegueiro</i></li></ul> |
|                     | Pause  |
| <b>11.30-12.30</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The placebo, a necessary good.<br/><i>António Albino Teixeira</i></li></ul>  |
|                     | Lunch  |
| <b>14.00-15.15</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ethical considerations in conducting clinical trials. The Portuguese Ethics Committee for clinical research.<br/><i>António Lourenço</i></li></ul>   |
| <b>15.15-16.30</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Clinical benefit: effectiveness under observation.<br/><i>Henrique Barros</i></li></ul>  |