Introduction

The Pan African Clinical Trials Registry (PACTR) and the South African Clinical Trial Register (SANCTR) are managed by Cochrane South Africa (Cochrane SA) at the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC). PACTR established in 2007 as the AIDS, TB and Malaria (ATM) registry and transitioned in 2009 to become the only primary registry and a member of the World Health Organisation Clinical Trial Registry Platform (WHO-ICTRP) Network in Africa. PACTR registers trials that are conducted in the African countries. SANCTR is a National Department of Health (NDoH) mandated national register of trials conducted in South Africa which was established in 2005, it was migrated to the SAMRC, Cochrane SA in 2019 and was redeveloped and launched June 2020.

Number of trials registered

Since inception of the two databases SANCTR in 2006 and PACTR 2008, both databases have grown substantially with a total of 4258 and 4343 records registered, respectively. PACTR has shown steady growth in the number of records registered each year, with a record high of 606 trials registered in 2020 and a slight decrease since then. Over the years, SANCTR registers between 200 and 300 trials with the lowest number of trials (n = 135) registered in 2019 and 2020 that were registered during the transition period when SANCTR was redeveloped.

All data present as of 31 March 2024
**Top 5 diseases studied in trials registered**

The most studied condition as depicted for both SANCTR and PACTR is Infections and Infestations with 1844 trials and 801 trials registered respectively, followed by 342 Cancer trials in SANCTR and 448 trials studying pediatric conditions in PACTR. Both SANCTR and PACTR studied similar condition such as Nutritional, Metabolic and Endocrine diseases, Muscle and Connective tissue disease. PACTR trials also studied conditions like Pregnancy and Childbirth in 349 trials and SANCTR studied Nervous and Immune system diseases for 112 trials.

**Purpose of trials registered**

Majority of trials (n=3586 for SANCTR and n=1945 for PACTR) focused on treatment, followed by prevention for 436 trials in SANCTR and 880 trials in PACTR. A further 477 trials in PACTR focused on Supportive/rehabilitation interventions, while fewer trials were focused on other interventions.

**Top 10 countries for registered trials**

Majority of trials (n=1718) registered in PACTR are from Egypt, followed by 574 trials in Nigeria and 380 trials located in Kenya. *South African trials (n=366) shown in the data exclude the 4258 trials from SANCTR.

- Egypt: 1718
- Nigeria: 574
- Kenya: 380
- South Africa: 366
- Uganda: 178
- Ethiopia: 168
- Ghana: 159
- Tanzania: 134
- Malawi: 62
- Burkina Faso: 52

*All data present as of 31 March 2024*

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**Happy International Clinical Trials Day**

20 May 2024

In honor of all those participate in clinical trials. We thank you for your invaluable contributions to advancing the field of evidence based healthcare.