

Workshop report

International Collaboration for Research methods
Development in Oncology

9th CReDO workshop

2nd to 7th March 2026 Lonavala, India

<https://credo.ncgindia.org/>



About the workshop

The National Cancer Grid of India conducted the ninth International Collaboration for Research methods Development in Oncology (CReDO) workshop at the Larsen and Toubro Leadership Development Academy at Lonavala, near Mumbai between 2nd and 7th March 2026.

The objective of this workshop was to train researchers in oncology in various aspects of clinical trial design and to help them to develop a research idea into a structured protocol. Participation was open to researchers with training in surgical, medical or radiation oncology or any branch related to oncology with preference being given to early and middle-level researchers working in an academic setting, who demonstrate commitment to continuing research in oncology.

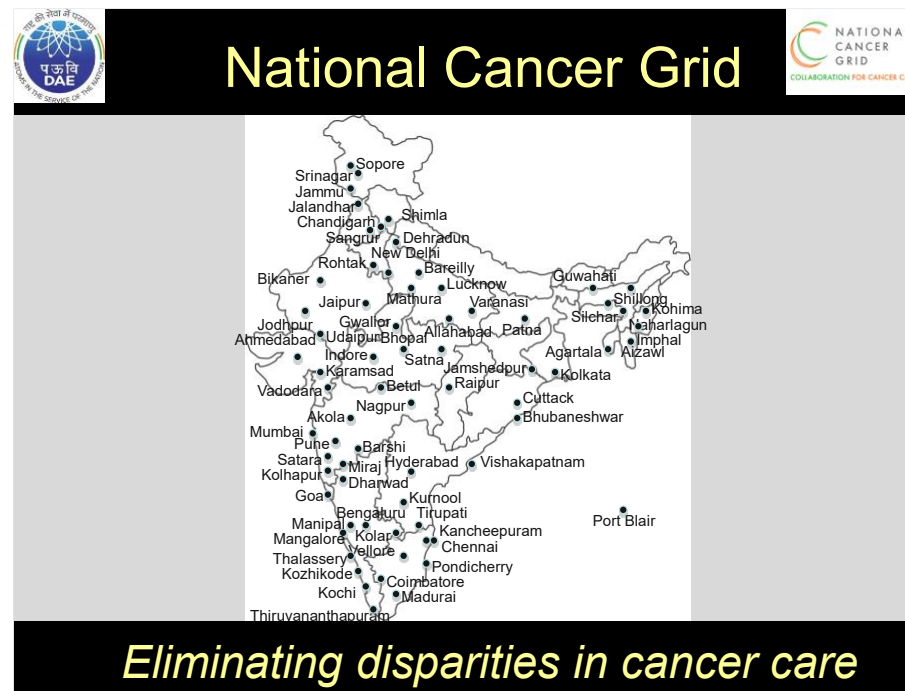
The format of the workshop included protocol development group sessions, didactic talks, small-group breakaway sessions, office-hours (one-to-one direct consultation with experts) and “homework”. This was supplemented by pre- and post-workshop virtual sessions.



The National Cancer Grid of India

The National Cancer Grid (NCG) of India is a collaboration of more than 400 major cancer centres, research institutes, charitable trusts, patient groups and professional societies, covering the entire length and breadth of the country and is amongst the largest cancer networks in the world. Funded by the Government of India through the Department of Atomic Energy, the NCG has the primary mandate of working towards uniform standards of care across India by adopting evidence-based management guidelines, which are implementable across these centres. It is also intended to facilitate exchange of expertise between centres, cancer workforce capacity building, and to facilitate multidisciplinary collaborative cancer research. The NCG has transformed the overall spectrum of cancer care, education and research in India and had major impact over the past decade. Initiatives of the NCG include adoption of uniform management guidelines for treatment of common cancers in India, institutional peer review, a central “National Cancer Library”, refresher courses in surgical pathology, training in clinical research methods, palliative care, standardization of surgical pathology including immunohistochemistry and molecular pathology, quality assurance, establishment of a Centre for Digital Oncology, a Centre for Global Oncology amongst others.

Some of the research proposals developed at past CReDO workshops have been funded by the National Cancer Grid, as multi-centric trials.



Workshop venue

The workshop was held at the Leadership Development Academy of Larsen and Toubro, which is located at Lonavala, 100 kilometres away from Mumbai. Set in the lush green surroundings of the Sahyadri hills, the academy has a fully-equipped training centre with learning halls, library facilities and well-furnished accommodation. It also offers recreational facilities like swimming, a jogging track, gymnasium, indoor and outdoor games.



Workshop Advisory Board

Marc Buyse
Mahesh Parmar
Arnie Purushotham
Ian Tannock

International Drug Development Institute, Belgium and California
UCL Innovative Clinical Trials Unit, London
King's College, London
Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, Toronto

Workshop Organising Committee (Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai)

Girish Chinnaswamy
Durga Gadgil
C S Pramesh

Priya Ranganathan
Manju Sengar
Shivakumar Thiagarajan

Workshop faculty

The faculty consisted of international and national experts with extensive experience in oncology research and training in research methodology workshops.

1.	Scott Berry	Carlo Fidani Cancer Centre, Toronto, Canada
2.	Nancy Bolous	St Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, USA
3.	Michael Brada	University of Liverpool, UK
4.	Marc Buyse	International Drug Development Institute, USA and Belgium
5.	Girish Chinnaswamy	Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai, India
6.	Vishal Deo	National Institute for Research in Digital Health and Data Science, ICMR, India
7.	Meenakshi Devidas	St Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, USA
8.	Caitlin Duffy	St Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, USA
9.	Chris Frampton	University of Otago, New Zealand
10.	Durga Gadgil	Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai
11.	Carlos Galindo-Rodriguez	St Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, USA
12.	Elizabeth Garrett-Mayer	American Society of Clinical Oncology
13.	Duncan Gilbert	MRC CTU at University College London
14.	Allan Hackshaw	Cancer Research UK & UCL Cancer Trials Centre, London
15.	Julia Hanebrink	St Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, USA
16.	Richard Harding	King's College London
17.	Yogeshwar Kalkonde	Sangwari, Chhattisgarh, India
18.	Sadhana Kannan	ACTREC, Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai, India
19.	Amit Khot	Peter MacCallum Cancer Center, Melbourne
20.	Bogda Koczwara	Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia
21.	Mark Krailo	University of Southern California, USA
22.	Ruth Langley	MRC CTU at University College London
23.	Patricia LoRusso (virtual attendance)	Yale School of Medicine, USA
24.	Meritxell Mallafré-Larrosa	City Cancer Challenge Foundation, Geneva
25.	Indrani Mallick	Tata Medical Center, Kolkata, India
26.	Aparna Mittal	PatientsEngage
27.	Jamme Musoro	European Organisation for Research and Treatment in Cancer, Belgium

28.	Mahesh Parmar	UCL Innovative Clinical Trials Unit, London
29.	Shital Patel	Patient advocate, PatientsEngage
30.	Prachi Patil	Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai
31.	Mahithi Pillay	Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), India
32.	C S Pramesh	Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai
33.	Arnie Purushotham	King's College, London
34.	A S Ramakrishnan	Surgical Oncologist, Chennai, India
35.	Neil Ranasinghe	Patient advocate, UK
36.	Priya Ranganathan	Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai
37.	Vinitha Ravindran	Christian Institute of Health Sciences and Research, Dimapur, Nagaland, India
38.	Victor Santana	St Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, USA
39.	Balu Krishna Sasidharan	Christian Medical College, Vellore, India
40.	Sara Selig	American Society of Clinical Oncology
41.	Manju Sengar	Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai
42.	Amit Shenoy	Patient Advocate, Hematology Cancer Consortium, Mumbai, India
43.	Sudha Sivaram	NCI Center for Global Health, USA
44.	Isabelle Soerjomataram	International Agency for Research in Cancer, Lyon, France
45.	Asha Solomon	Christian Medical College, Vellore, India
46.	Richard Stephens	Patient Advocate, Cancer Research Advocates Forum, UK
47.	Matthew Sydes	Data Driven Clinical Trials, NHS England
48.	Ian Tannock	Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, Toronto, Canada
49.	Shivakumar Thiagarajan	Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai, India
50.	Katherine Van Loon	University of California, San Francisco, USA

CReDO 2026 faculty



CReDO organizing committee



Workshop application process

Application for the workshop was through a competitive online application system.

Criteria for participation

Applicants should have fulfilled the following criteria:

1. Trained or be in-training in any branch of oncology (surgical, medical or radiation) or any specialty allied to oncology.
2. Have an interest in clinical research and show commitment to devote time to clinical research in the years following the workshop.
3. Be ready with a research concept (idea) which can be developed into a full-fledged research project.
4. Be comfortable with written and spoken English and have basic computer skills.
5. Have support from their Supervisor/ Head of Department and Institution to carry out the proposed research project.

Application details

Participants were selected through a competitive online application process. Each application contained the following details:

1. Applicant details
2. Brief synopsis of the proposed research
3. Applicant's statement of purpose
4. Supervisor's statement of support

Selection of participants

Each application was reviewed by at least two expert reviewers who rated the applications based on:

1. Quality of the research concept
2. Applicant's statement of purpose
3. Supervisor's statement of support
4. Value addition to the applicant's institution

Preference was given to early or mid-career researchers from academic institutions who demonstrated commitment to continuing research in oncology. Applicants who were accepted for the workshop had to develop the clinical research concept submitted with their application into a complete clinical trial protocol during the workshop. A total of 65 participants from 16 countries participated in the workshop.

Workshop participants

National participants

1.	Ajoy Oommen John	Christian Medical College, Vellore
2.	Amrit Dhar	Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai
3.	Annesha Chakraborti	Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai
4.	Aparna Krishna	Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), Puduchery
5.	Apeksha Lakhekar	Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai
6.	Archita R	Christian Medical College, Vellore
7.	Arjun M Pillai	MNJ Hospital, Hyderabad
8.	Ashvin Jeberson Paul	Christian Medical College, Vellore
9.	Ayushi Gupta	Christian Medical College, Vellore
10.	B Komal Jain	Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai
11.	Baskaran D	Basavataarakam Indo American Cancer Hospital & Research Institute, Hyderabad
12.	Bitra Sadguru Nandini	Nizams Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad
13.	Chirag Trivedi	Christian Medical College, Ludhiana
14.	Dinesh R	Cancer Institute, Adyar, Chennai
15.	Disha Goyal	Cachar Cancer Hospital & Research Centre, Silchar, Assam
16.	Emine A Rahiman	Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Karnataka
17.	Gokul Das K	Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram
18.	Harikrishna Kovilapu	Christian Medical College, Vellore
19.	Kent Reji K	Christian Medical College, Vellore
20.	Kirti Khandelwal	Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai
21.	Leenu Lizbeth Joseph	Christian Medical College, Vellore
22.	Madhura Sharma	Advanced Centre for Treatment, Research and Education in Cancer (ACTREC), Kharghar, Navi Mumbai
23.	Maharshi Trivedi	Gujarat Cancer and Research Institute, Ahmedabad
24.	Mouna B M	Ramaiah Medical College, Bengaluru
25.	Moushmi V	Cancer Institute, Adyar, Chennai
26.	Nandini Devi R	Malabar Cancer Center, Thalassery
27.	Palukuri Nageswara Reddy	SVICCAR (Sri Venkateswara Institute of Cancer Care and Advanced Research), Tirupathi
28.	Pragadeesh Thamaraiselvan	Cancer Institute, Adyar, Chennai

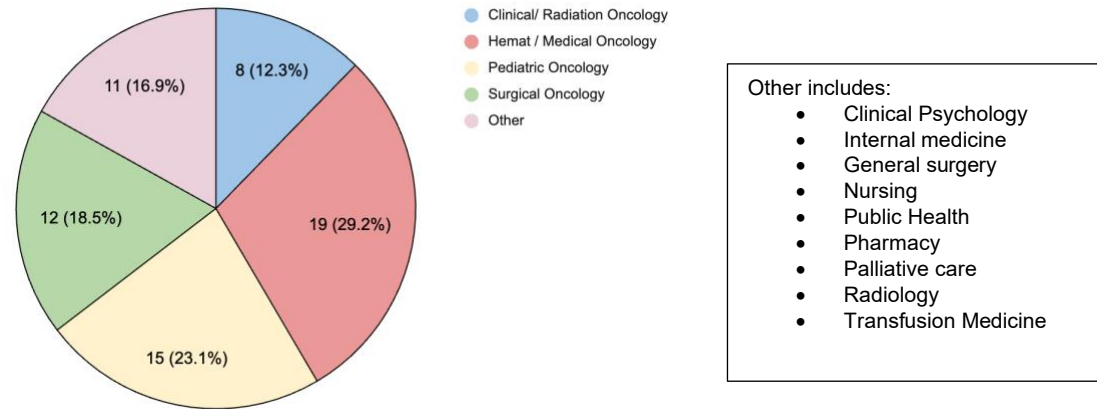
29.	Prashant Kumar	Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute & Research centre, New Delhi
30.	Pritam Singharoy	Tata Medical Center, Kolkata
31.	Pushkala S	Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology, Bengaluru
32.	Rajath Govind	Army Hospital Research & Referral, New Delhi
33.	Ramneek Kaur	Army Hospital Research & Referral, New Delhi
34.	Raveendranath P	Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai
35.	Sahitya Rao	Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai
36.	Sandeep Jain	Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute & Research centre, New Delhi
37.	Santhoshkumar Bandegudda	Ramaiah Medical College, Bengaluru
38.	Shambhavi Shukla	Tata Medical Center, Kolkata
39.	Shivani Shah	Christian Medical College, Vellore
40.	Siddhartha Basuroy	B Borooah Cancer Institute, Guwahati
41.	Sujana Priya Vuba	AIG HOSPITALS, Hyderabad
42.	Thomas Eipe	Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai
43.	Vaidya Vedant Shripad	Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), Puduchery
44.	Vasireddy Sadasivudu	Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya Cancer Centre, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

International participants

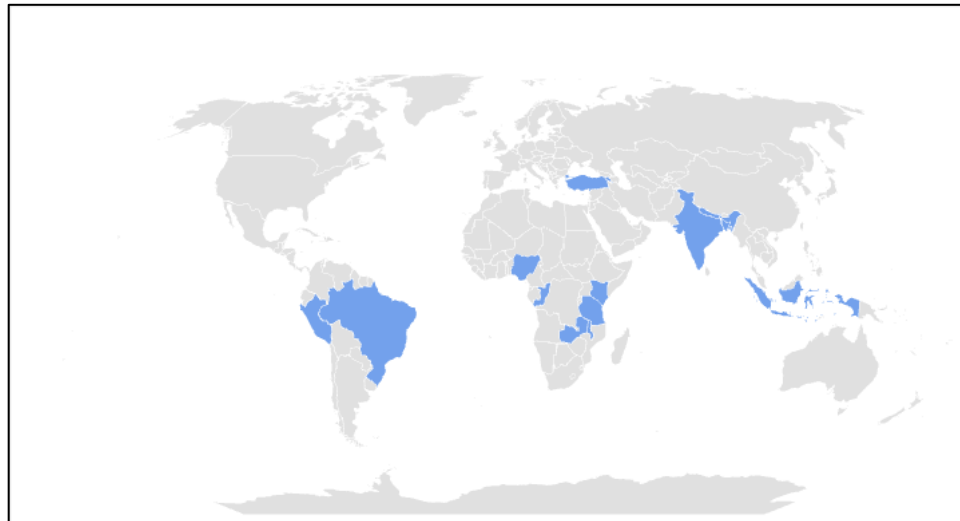
1.	Elen Baloyan	Yeolyan Haematology and Oncology Center	Armenia
2.	Zannat Ara	Dhaka Medical College & Hospital	Bangladesh
3.	Marcelo Milone Silva	Hospital GACC Vale do Paraiba	Brazil
4.	Maria Aurália Da Silveira Assoni	Barretos Cancer Hospital	Brazil
5.	Talita Candido Bueno	Hospital GACC Vale do Paraiba	Brazil
6.	Hailu Alemu Haile	Jimma university	Ethiopia
7.	Candra Adi Nugroho	RSCM Hospital	Indonesia
8.	Shafira Puspadina	Dharmais National Cancer Center, Jakarta	Indonesia
9.	Doreen Karimi Mutua	Gertrude's Children's Hospital	Kenya
10.	Peres Girisa	AIC Kijabe Hospital	Kenya
11.	Noel Chiphangwi	Ministry of Health, Malawi	Malawi
12.	Bishow Nath Adhikari	Government of Nepal	Nepal
13.	Mahima Pant	Government of Nepal	Nepal

14.	Ramesh Shrestha	B. P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences,	Nepal
15.	Adeleye Abiodun Adeomi	Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria	Nigeria
16.	Olalekan Olasehinde	Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria	Nigeria
17.	Claudia Pascual	Pan American Health Organization	Peru
18.	Chidoro Mirindi Jacques	Charite Maternelle Hospital, Goma	Republic of Congo
19.	Bashari Nuru Kidaya	Bugando Medical Centre	Tanzania
20.	Eray Akay	Ankara Bilkent City Hospital	Turkey
21.	Mwando Fidelia Chitula	Ministry of Health	Zambia

Specialty-wise distribution of participants



Countries represented at CReDO 2026



Other attendees at CReDO 2026

Research personnel

As part of the initiative to build research capacity at a national and global level, we invited research personnel to participate in the CReDO 2026 workshop. These included biostatisticians and project managers.

1.	Ananya K V	International Institute for Population Sciences, Deonar
2.	Nikita Patel	INPHOG Research Foundation
3.	Himanshu Aggarwal	Christian Medical College, Ludhiana
4.	Sruthi S	Regional Cancer Centre, Thiruvananthapuram
5.	R. Balasubramaniam	Cancer Institute (WIA), Adyar, Chennai
6.	Jang Bahadur Prasad	Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), Puduchery
7.	Girish B S	Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai
8.	C S Meghana	Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai
9.	HariPriya Surendran	Basavatarakam Indo-American Cancer Hospital and Research Institute, Hyderabad

Patient advocates

The NCG has partnered with PatientsEngage to initiate training for individuals who can subsequently serve as patient advocates for research in cancer (PARC) and clinical guideline development. The training included a series of virtual interactive sessions on topics relevant for research and guidelines. Out of 15 participants who went through virtual training, 8 attended the CReDO 2026 workshop to learn the role of patient advocates in protocol development under supervision of patient advocate mentors experienced in participation in clinical research. These participants were embedded in the protocol development groups and contributed actively to the research protocols.

1.	V.K Reveendranadh
2.	Manisha Kumar
3.	Nikhil Agarwal
4.	Mona Chaudhuri
5.	Preeti Phad
6.	Kanakapriya
7.	Balaji Kannan
8.	Lolita Saletore



CReDO 2026 faculty with participants and other trainees



Pre-workshop webinars

Starting December 2025, participants attended a series of webinars on the following topics:

1. Overview of the workshop
2. Research Study designs
 - a. Observational study designs
 - b. Interventional study designs
 - c. Qualitative research methods
3. Elements of a research protocol
4. Searching medical literature
5. Research ethics and Informed consent
6. Biostatistics
7. Qualitative research

The objective of these webinars was to introduce participants to various concepts of qualitative and quantitative research methodology. The webinars were interactive, and participants were encouraged to submit their questions and problems for discussion during the webinar.

Pre-workshop Protocol Development Group (PDG) interactions

The PDGs form the core activity of the workshop and enable participants to convert their one-page research idea into a full-fledged research protocol ready for IRB / Ethics submission. Workshop participants were divided into groups of 7 - 8 each, with each of these groups being mentored by 4 to 5 faculty. Prior to the workshop, feedback was provided by the PDG faculty to the participants:

- a) Initial written feedback on the concept notes was provided through a Google sheet
- b) Virtual meeting: The PDGs met online in separate calls to discuss the research concepts of each participant in the group and provide additional feedback.

Participants were encouraged to work on the feedback before they arrived at the workshop.

During the workshop

The workshop sessions were carefully formulated to meet the objectives while stimulating interactive discussions. Learning sessions were in the following formats:

A. Lectures



These were presentations given by experts on common aspects of the methodology, design and conduct of clinical research proposals. Most of these principles helped participants to complete their research protocols and complement the discussions during the PDGs. These talks were carefully scheduled to aid participants, reflecting the stage of the protocol they were likely to develop on that day.

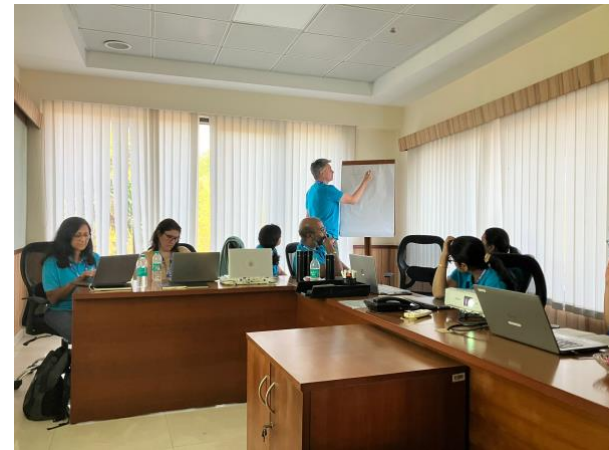
This year, we introduced parallel tracks on some days of the workshop where participants could choose to attend sessions on either (a) Qualitative and Implementation research or (b) Advanced trial designs

B. Protocol Development Groups (PDGs)

Participants and faculty met for 2.5-3 hours every day to develop various sections of individual protocols. These sessions built upon the initial suggestions given prior to the workshop. Each of the PDG sessions gave participants constructive feedback of their respective projects by the mentors and other participants, while applying the knowledge gained from the other sessions. Participants learnt as much from observing other protocols developed in their group, as they did from their own protocols. In effect, this meant that each participant experienced the development of seven other protocols in addition to their own.

C. Meet the expert sessions or “Office hours”

These were direct one-on-one sessions between workshop participants and faculty experts, to clarify specific problems with protocols. Individual assistance with protocols from experts with unique strengths allowed participants to gain from the experience and knowledge of mentors from outside their own PDGs. These sessions were also used for professional career guidance and advice on other aspects of research like grant writing, getting research funding etc.



D. Focused group sessions

Focused sessions were held on specific topics, which were not covered during the common lecture sessions but were important parts of certain research protocols; these also dealt with essential elements to the success of research projects, as well as discussions around challenges and hurdles for different kinds of protocols. These groups were deliberately kept small to facilitate active interactions between the participants and the faculty. The topics for focused group discussions included

- AI in research
- Screening studies
- Publishing research findings
- Presenting research findings
- All you wanted to ask about statistics
- Designing a survey questionnaire
- Value-based research
- Measuring Quality of Life in research
- Pediatric research collaboration



E. Hands-on sessions

Based on requests from participants, we held hands-on sessions on the use of software including REDCap, R, Excel and SPSS.

Special ASCO joint session: Presentation of the best protocols at the workshop (NCG-ASCO joint session)



The faculty mentors for each protocol development group selected the best protocol(s) in their group based on novelty, relevance and feasibility. The selected research ideas (nine in all) were presented to all faculty and participants, during a one-hour session on 6th March 2026.

Workshop agenda

SUN - 1st MAR 2026		MON - 2nd MAR 2026		TUE - 3rd MAR 2026		WED - 4th MAR 2026		THUR - 5th MAR 2026 (PARALLEL TRACKS from 0830 to 1030)		FRI - 6th MAR 2026		SAT - 7th MAR 2026	
PRE-WORKSHOP SESSION (participants only)		0830-0900		0830-0915	PROTOCOL WRITING: Methods - DUNCAN GILBERT	0830-0900	Implementation research CAITLYN DUFFY	0830-0900 Non-inferiority studies - MAX PARMAR	0830-0930 Implementation research - CAITLYN DUFFY / SUDHA SIVARAM	0830-0900	Practical aspects of running a trial - PRACHI PATIL		
1700-1830	Arrival and settling down	0900-0945	Patient and public participation in research - RICHARD STEPHENS	0915-1000	Observational study designs: CHRIS FRAMPTON (to include sample size calculation)	0900-0930	Qualitative research methods: JULIA HANEBRINK	0900-0940 Biomarkers in research: INCL predictive and prognostic - LIZ GARRETT MEYER		0900-0930	Creating a CRF and database - INDRANIL MALLICK	0900-0930	Writing a research paper - KATHERINE VANLON
1830-1930	Registration and pre-workshop session	0945-1015	Starting a research career - YOGESH KALKONDE	1000-1030	Phases of trials and Phase 1 trials - PAT LO RUSSO (virtual)	0930-1015	Time-to-event analysis - ALLAN HACKSHAW	0940-1000 Multiple testing - MARC BUYSE 1000-1030 Novel study designs: MAHESH PARMAR	0930-1030 Qualitative research - ASHA SOLOMON / JULIA HANEBRINK / VINITHA RAVINDRAN	0930-1000	Health economics - NANCY BOLOUS	0930-1000	Critical appraisal of published papers: IAN TANNOCK
		1015-1045	Tea break	1030-1100	Tea break	1015-1115	Tea break with group pic	1030-1100 Tea break	1030-1100 Tea break	1030-1100	Tea break	1000-1030	Tea break
		1045-1145	Pretest (participants) Briefing (faculty)	1100-1130	Phase 2 trials - MARK KRAILO (to include sample size)	1115-1145	PRO and QoL - JAMMBE MUSORO	1100-1200	Interpreting results of research - ALLAN HACKSHAW	1100-1130	Research grants and funding - BALU	1030-1100	NCG and research collaboration - PRAMESH
		1145-1230	Overview of workshop: PRIYA RANGANATHAN	1130-1215	Methodology of phase 3 trials - PRAMESH	1145-1215	Palliative care research - RICHARD HARDING	1200-1300	Meet-the-expert sessions	1130-1200	Presentation of results - MIKE BRADA	1100-1145	Feedback session
		1230-1315	PROTOCOL WRITING: concept sheets - title/ hypothesis /aims/ objectives - MIKE BRADA	1215-1300	Stats for phase 3 trials (include sample size and analysis)- MARC BUYSE	1215-1300	Outcomes and outcome measures incl composite and surrogate endpoints - MARC BUYSE	1200-1300		Meet-the-expert sessions	1145-1230	Post-test (participants) Feedback (faculty)	
		1315-1415	Lunch	1300-1400	Lunch	1300-1400	Lunch	1300-1400	Lunch	1300-1400	Lunch	1230-1330	Lunch
		1415-1645 (tea break in between)	Protocol development session: concept sheets title/aims/objectives	1400-1700 (tea break in between)	Protocol development session: Study design, Setting, Population, Intervention	1400-1700 (tea break in between)	Protocol development session: Outcomes & measures, Statistical considerations	1400 onwards	Protocol development session: Overall discussions	1400-1700 (tea break in between)	Protocol development session: Final discussions		Departure
		1700-1830	Team-building activity	1715-1800	Focus small group sessions	1715-1800	Focus small group sessions	1715-1800	Focus small group sessions	1830-2100	ASCO joint session Presentation of best 9 protocols developed at the workshop		
		1900 onwards	Keynote address and Welcome dinner (national costumes)	1930	FACULTY DEBRIEFING								
		Homework (due by 2100) - update concept sheet and protocol each day	Background/rationale, Aim, objectives & hypothesis	Homework (due by 2100) - update concept sheet and protocol each day	Study design, Setting, Population, Intervention, Study procedures	Homework (due by 2100) - update concept sheet and protocol each day	Outcomes & measures, Statistical considerations	Homework (due by 2100) - update concept sheet and protocol each day	Finalising the concept sheet and protocol	Homework (due by 2100) - update concept sheet and protocol each day	Submit final protocol		

Additional sessions

Based on feedback from previous participants and in recognition of the need to build research capacity, we had additional sessions over the weekend

a) Two-day research brain-storming session – 7th and 8th March 2026

Recognizing the need for sustained mentoring and development of nationally important, potentially practice-changing studies developed by mid- and senior-level researchers (some of whom were past participants of CReDO workshops), we introduced a two-day research brainstorming session at the end of the main workshop. CReDO faculty (including trialists and statisticians) coordinated these sessions and discussed specific problems related to the proposed research projects. The following research ideas were discussed at this session:

	Research idea	Investigator
1.	CONcurrent versus SEquential Chemo-Endocrine therapy in ER positive and HER2 negative non-metastatic breast cancer (CONSEQUENCE)	Shalaka Joshi
2.	WHIPPLE-BOT Trial: A randomized phase 3 trial comparing robotic vs. open pancreaticoduodenectomy on major complications (Clavien-Dindo \geq 3)– A superiority design.	Vikram Chaudhari
3.	Nrf2 Activator (Chlorophyllin) or Placebo with Standard Treatment for Late Radiation-induced Luminal Gastrointestinal Tract Bleeding: Multicentric Double-Blinded Phase III Randomised Trial	Rahul Krishnatry
4.	ICiCLE-ALL-24 – The Indian Collaborative Childhood Leukaemia Randomised Trial for Children and Adolescents with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia 2024	Venkataraman Radhakrishnan
5.	Efficacy and safety of substitution of bleomycin by low dose nivolumab in ABVD (Doxorubicin + Bleomycin + Vinblastine + Dacarbazine) backbone chemotherapy in newly diagnosed advanced stage pediatric Hodgkin Lymphoma: A phase II, multicentric, open label, randomized controlled trial.	Debashis Sahoo
6.	A Prospective Phase III open label Randomized Controlled Trial evaluating the role of Neo-adjuvant chemotherapy in mandible preservation in oral cavity cancers (NACT Mandible)	Shivakumar Thiagarajan
7.	Upfront surgery followed by adjuvant treatment versus chemoradiotherapy (CCRT) in Head and Neck Squamous cell carcinoma of Unknown Primary with neck node metastasis: A phase III randomized controlled trial. (SCCoUP Trial).	Shivakumar Thiagarajan

b) Two-day workshop for biostatisticians – 7th and 8th March 2026



We conducted a two-day workshop for biostatisticians on 7th and 8th March 2026. There were 13 attendees (5 statisticians who had attended the CReDO 2026 workshop as trainees, as well as 8 other statisticians). The workshop was mentored by CReDO faculty statisticians. Some of the topics which were discussed included statistical approaches, methods to integrate biostatistics into clinical settings, interaction and communication with researchers, and case-based problem solving.

Workshop Evaluation

An online pre and post-test evaluation of participants was conducted to assess the impact of the workshop. The test questionnaire included a total of 50 items covering various aspects of clinical research methodology and protocol development. These topics were extensively covered during the workshop in the form of didactic lectures and small group discussions. The post-test evaluation showed an improvement in scores.

What faculty and participants had to say

The participants leave with a much better understanding of ethics, statistics, trial design, trial implementation. Their network has increased massively across different disciplines, across India and across the world. They had countless meaningful interactions with faculty that often continues even after they have returned home. They are ready to implement their research, and this is exactly what they do. – **Neil Ranasinghe**, Faculty, United Kingdom

The workshop is one of a kind, in my opinion. It blends team building, networking, education, training, research, perspective, career growth, and FUN – all at the same time! – **Elen Baloyan**, Participant, Armenia

Thank you for an amazingly inspirational week- I feel grateful to have had the opportunity to be a part of it. I learned so much from all of you and from the participants and look forward to continuing to move the work forward together. – **Sara Selig**, Faculty, USA

My experience as a first-time faculty at CReDO was truly amazing. I witnessed the fruition of the idea of coming in with a research concept and going back with a well-developed proposal. CReDO not only steepened the learning curve for participants but also provided leadership lessons on how to handle success in professional lives. – **Asha Solomon**, Faculty, India

A memorable enriching experience in clinical research. – **Balaji Kannan**, Patient advocate, India

If I had to describe CReDO in two words, it would be “research wonderland.” It is an inspiring space where brilliant minds from across the world come together with a shared purpose of advancing oncology research. For anyone even remotely interested in clinical research in cancer, CReDO is a truly unique and eye-opening experience! – **Shambhavi Shukla**, Participant, India

It was a wonderful experience. Thanks to the organizers for arranging such a structured workshop. - **Balasubramaniam R**, Biostatistician, India

Thank you to the amazing NCG/CReDO team and each of the faculty for your support. You set a powerful example for both patient advocates and young oncologists, demonstrating that genuine patient and public involvement is possible and what it can look like in practice. – **Aparna Mittal**, Faculty, Singapore

Summary of workshop outcomes and impact

The objectives of this workshop were:

- a) To train researchers in oncology in various aspects of clinical research methods
- b) To help them to develop a research idea into a structured protocol
- c) To build research capacity by training biostatisticians and other research staff
- d) To facilitate mid- and senior-level researchers with more advanced research designs
- e) To build a cadre of patient advocates for increased involvement in oncology research

Outcomes of the workshop

- a) We used a pre- and post-test survey to assess the impact of the workshop on participants' knowledge. Almost all participants showed an improvement in test scores after the workshop.
- b) All 65 participants who had submitted a one-page research concept sheet at the time of workshop application, converted their ideas into full-fledged protocols.
- c) Nine research personnel (six biostatisticians and two project officers) attended the main workshop and participated in the training and discussions. In addition, 13 biostatisticians participated in a 2-day special training session for statisticians
- d) Mid- and senior-level researchers participated in a 2-day session to discuss more advanced aspects of their planned and ongoing research projects.
- e) Eight patient advocates attended the workshop and were actively engaged in the development of the research protocols.

Follow-On Efforts / Sustainability of Impact

Feedback to mentor/supervisor: As part of the workshop application process, participants submitted a letter of support from an institutional mentor/supervisor. A copy of the participant's progress at the workshop is mailed to the supervisor with a request to continue encouragement and support to the participant to complete the research study.

Post-workshop webinars: We have a series of monthly post-workshop webinars on various aspects of research methods, which participants are encouraged to attend. These webinars are useful to maintain knowledge, discuss any problems with their research study and seek advice from experienced faculty.

Follow-up surveys: A follow-up survey is mailed to participants every 6 months to assess the status of their research protocol and other research endeavours. Through these periodic surveys, participants are encouraged to initiate their research studies, as well as to undertake other research projects and build collaborations.

Capacity building: Through training of patient advocates, biostatisticians and project staff

Workshop fees and scholarships provided

Registration fee for selected participants was 200,000 INR (2500 USD). This covered transport between Mumbai and the workshop venue, accommodation, and all meals at the workshop venue for the duration of the workshop, and access to workshop resources.

We were able to provide complete travel and registration support for 36 participants. In addition, we were able to provide substantial (~90%) support for registration and/or travel to the remaining participants through NCG grants and from CSR funds. Patient advocate trainees and biostatistics trainees received full support to participate in the workshop

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Corporate sponsor

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The Lancet Oncology

This conference was organized **under the auspices of** the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC)

Projects developed at the workshop

1.	Adeleye Abiodun Adeomi	Co-designing and evaluation of a culturally appropriate Cancer awareness Program for Rural Southwestern Nigeria; a formative phase implementation research
2.	Ajoy Oommen John	Neoadjuvant NeoLOCUS (Carboplatin, Paclitaxel, Oral Metronomic Therapy, and Low-Dose Nivolumab) to improve the Major Pathological Response (MPR) in Operable Locally Advanced Oral Cavity Squamous cell carcinoma (OCSCC): A Randomized Phase II trial evaluating perioperative Intensification
3.	Amrit Dhar	A phase II open-label randomised non-comparative study to assess the efficacy of extended antifungal prophylaxis post Talicabtagene Autoleucel (NexCAR19) in relapsed refractory B-cell malignancies
4.	Annesha Chakraborti	Effect of a Structured Diet and Exercise Intervention on BMI z-Score and Cardiometabolic Risk versus standard care in Overweight and Obese Children with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia During Chemotherapy: A Randomized Controlled Trial
5.	Aparna Krishna	Association of CD36 antibodies and platelet refractoriness in hemato oncology patients receiving multiple platelet transfusions
6.	Apeksha Lakhekar	Feasibility and Preliminary Effect of Stress-Management Leaflets on Psychological Distress in lymphoma patients: A Pilot Study
7.	Archita R	A single arm phase ii study evaluating the effect of azacytidine - venetoclax maintenance following transplantation on the relapse risk for acute myeloid leukemia
8.	Arjun M Pillai	Evaluation of Palliative Sedation Practices In India: A Multicentre Observational Study
9.	Ashvin Jeberson Paul	Cyclic Fasting Mimicking Diet (FMD) during neo-adjuvant chemotherapy in Triple negative breast cancer: A phase II Feasibility and Safety study.
10.	Ayushi Gupta	A Single-Arm Phase II Study Evaluating Rituximab and Lenalidomide in Patients with Partial Metabolic Response following CAR T-Cell Therapy for Relapsed/Refractory Large B-Cell Lymphomas.
11.	B Komal Jain	Development of a model to determine the factors affecting the Optimal dosing of 6-Mercaptopurine(6MP) and Methotrexate in Maintenance therapy of Acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL)
12.	Bashari Nuru Kidaya	Cervical Cancer Patients' Pathways and Barriers at Bugando Medical Centre: A Prospective Mixed Methods Study to Strengthen Cancer Care Delivery in Tanzania
13.	Baskaran D	Triplet versus Doublet Chemotherapy Prior to Chemoradiotherapy for High Risk Locally Advanced Rectal Cancer: A Multi-Centre Randomized Controlled Trial
14.	Bishow Nath Adhikari	Nutritional Status of Children with Hematolymphoid and selected non-CNS solid malignancies at Diagnosis and After Early Nutritional Support: A Prospective Cohort Study at Tertiary Children's Hospital
15.	Bitra Sadguru Nandini	Phase III Multicenter randomized trial comparing conventional versus hypofractionated RT (HFRT) in newly diagnosed IDH wild type(-wt) WHO Grade 4 Glioma.
16.	Candra Adi Nugroho	Whole-Brain Radiation Therapy (WBRT) +Simultaneous Integrated Boost (SIB) vs. Stereotactic Techniques (SRS/SRT) for the Treatment of Brain Metastasis (BM), a non-randomized prospective parallel cohort study
17.	Chidoro Mirindi Jacques	Protocol for Establishing the Goma Childhood Cancer Registry (GCCR): A Population-Based Observational Registry Study
18.	Chirag Trivedi	Randomized Controlled Trial Comparing Alpha-Beta T-Cell Depletion Versus Post-Transplant Cyclophosphamide, Sirolimus, and Mycophenolate Mofetil as GVHD Prophylaxis in Haploidentical Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation for Hematological Malignancies

19.	Claudia Pascual	Biomarker-Based Evaluation of Heavy Metal and Pesticide Exposure in Children with and without Cancer in Peru: A Multicenter Case-Control Study.
20.	Dinesh R	A Randomized Phase III trial of Low-Dose Versus Standard-Dose Bortezomib, Lenalidomide, and Dexamethasone (VRd) in Newly Diagnosed Multiple Myeloma- A Multicenter study from India
21.	Disha Goyal	A prospective study in women with breast cancer who completes neoadjuvant chemotherapy to determine the accuracy of radiological methods and minimally invasive guided biopsy; in predicting pathological complete response.
22.	Doreen Karimi Mutua	Comparison of Empiric Antibiotic Regimens (Cefepime Monotherapy vs. Piperacillin–Tazobactam Plus Amikacin) for High-Risk Chemotherapy induced Febrile Neutropenia in A Pediatric Oncology Unit in Kenya: A Randomized Phase III Clinical Trial
23.	Elen Baloyan	A Prospective Phase II Implementation Study of Low-Dose Pembrolizumab (100 mg Every 6 Weeks) to Improve Immunotherapy Access in Advanced NSCLC in Armenia: ARMENI Study
24.	Emine A Rahiman	A multi-centric ambispective audit on the incidence and prognostic factors of clinically significant chemotherapy-induced thrombocytopenia in children with solid tumors
25.	Eray Akay	Near-Infrared Spectroscopy for Early Detection of Typhlitis in Pediatric Oncology Patients: A Novel Non-Invasive Diagnostic Tool
26.	Gokul Das K	Evaluating Pharmacokinetics/Pharmacodynamics of polyglutamated Folinic Acid levels (pFA) during High-dose Methotrexate (HDMTX) courses in Pediatric Acute Lymphoblastic leukemia
27.	Hailu Alemu Haile	Improving Early Detection and Timely Referral of Childhood Cancer through community based interventions in Southwest Ethiopia
28.	Harikrishna Kovilapu	A Randomized Phase III Trial of Maintenance Pemetrexed Plus Metronomic Oral Cyclophosphamide versus Observation in Platinum-Sensitive Recurrent Epithelial Ovarian Carcinoma. Pemetrexed and Metronomic Cyclophosphamide in Ovarian Carcinoma (PEMCOV)
29.	Kent Reji K	Molecular subtyping of vestibular schwannomas (VS) and clinical correlations
30.	Kirti Khandelwal	Beyond Treatment Completion: Exploring Patient Perceived Barriers and Facilitators to Follow-up Care for Oral Cancer
31.	Leenu Lizbeth Joseph	Silence of the L-AmB. Safety and efficacy of prophylaxis with liposomal amphotericin-B in preventing invasive fungal infections in high risk paediatric acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL) during induction chemotherapy
32.	Madhura Sharma	Assessing the Impact of Radiation Dose Distribution on Dental Implant Outcomes in Irradiated Head and Neck Cancer Patients in a Tertiary Oncological Centre in India
33.	Maharshi Trivedi	Systemic Vincristine and Topotecan chemotherapy for Intra-ocular group B and C Retinoblastoma – A prospective, single arm, interventional trial - RETTIC Trial
34.	Mahima Pant	Efficacy and Safety of Ultra Low-dose Nivolumab combined with Total Neoadjuvant Therapy (TNT) in pMMR/MSS Locally Advanced Rectal Cancer: A Phase II Prospective Randomized Control Trial
35.	Marcelo Milone Silva	Impact of an Educational Intervention and a Direct Communication Flow on the Childhood Cancer Referral Timeline
36.	Maria Auralia Da Silveira Assoni	Evaluation of the Effectiveness of a Permanent Education Program for the Development of Educational Leadership Competencies in a Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Hospital
37.	Mouna B M	Development and Validation of a Risk Stratification Model for Primary G-CSF Prophylaxis in Patients Receiving Intermediate-Risk Chemotherapy Regimens
38.	Moushmi V	Radio sensitization Using Hydrogen Peroxide With Radiation in Palliative Stage IV Unresectable Breast Cancers: A Prospective Randomized Phase II Trial With Molecular Correlation. HYPE – RT

39.	Mwando Fidelia Chitula	Feasibility of Implementing a Geriatric 8 screening tool at Cancer Diseases Hospital in Lusaka, Zambia.
40.	Nandini Devi R	A Prospective Evaluation of Efficacy of Leuprolide Acetate for Ovarian Function Preservation in Premenopausal Patients with Breast Cancer.
41.	Noel Chiphangwi	Understanding Delays in Breast Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital (QECH) and Kamuzu Central Hospital (KCH) in Malawi: A Mixed-Methods Study of Care Pathways and Patient Journey Between 2024 – 2025
42.	Olalekan Olasehinde	Developing and Implementing a Nurse- and Survivor-led Patient Navigation Programme to Enhance Breast Cancer Treatment Uptake in Nigeria
43.	Palukuri Nageswara Reddy	Role of Olanzapine in the Prevention of Chemoradiotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting in patients with Cervical Cancer
44.	Peres Girisa	Supporting Siblings Of Children With Cancer Undergoing Palliative Care Treatment: Assessing Psychosocial Needs
45.	Pragadeesh Thamaraiselvan	A phase-II study of low-dose nivolumab as consolidation after concurrent chemoradiotherapy in unresectable EGFR/ALK negative stage-III non-small cell lung cancer in a resource-limited setting: LunAR LoNivo
46.	Prashant Kumar	Evaluation of Circulating Tumor DNA (ctDNA) for Post-resection Prognostication in Gallbladder Cancer
47.	Pritam Singharoy	Intranasal Sedation Versus Intravenous Sedoanalgesia for Lumbar Puncture in Children with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia or Lymphoblastic Lymphoma: A Phase II, non-randomized, Within-Patient Comparison Study to test Efficiency and Patient Experience
48.	Pushkala S	Comparison of TextBook Outcomes (TBO) after esophagectomy following Neoadjuvant Chemoradiation Versus Neoadjuvant Chemotherapy in Locally Advanced Squamous Cell Carcinoma of the Mid Thoracic Esophagus: A Prospective cohort study.
49.	Rajath Govind	Randomised Phase II Non-Comparative Trial of Standard Versus De-Escalated Adjuvant Anti-HER2 Therapy
50.	Ramesh Shrestha	Incidence, Types and Severity of 30 Days Postoperative Complications among Patients Undergoing Surgery for Advanced Ovarian Cancer in Nepal
51.	Ramneek Kaur	Overall Survival in IDH-Wildtype Glioblastoma: A Prospective Observational Cohort Study Comparing MGMT Promoter–Methylated and Unmethylated Tumors Treated with Standard Chemoradiation
52.	Raveendranath P	A single center prospective study to assess the feasibility of electronic patient reported outcomes in patients with lymphoma
53.	Sahitya Rao	A Phase II Study To Evaluate The Efficacy Of Dose-Adjusted Epoch-R In Patients With Newly Diagnosed Dark Zone Signature Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma (DZSig-DLBCL).
54.	Sandeep Jain	Phase II open label single arm study to evaluate the impact of addition of cabozantinib in dose compression chemotherapy strategy in children and young adults with metastatic Ewing Sarcoma
55.	Santhoshkumar Bandegudda	ICG-Guided Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy in Early Oral Cancer: A Prospective Multicentric Study (INDO Trial)
56.	Shafira Puspadina	Barriers to Effective Treatment in Patients Contributing with Diffuse Large B-Cell Lymphoma
57.	Shambhavi Shukla	Prospective Study to identify association between neo-tongue volume and functional outcomes in advanced tongue cancers
58.	Shivani Shah	A Phase II Randomized Controlled Trial Evaluating Oral Budesonide versus Placebo for Prevention of Acute Graft-versus-Host Disease (aGVHD) Following Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation

59.	Siddhartha Basuroy	Impact of Tailored Pretreatment Lymphedema Intervention Program on Post-Treatment Lymphedema, Swallowing, and Voice Outcomes in Patients with Locally Advanced Buccal Mucosa Cancers: A Phase II Randomized Controlled Trial (LIP-START)
60.	Sujana Priya Vuba	Efficacy of Structured Pelvic Floor Therapy with Biofeedback and Rectal Balloon Training in Patients with Low Anterior Resection Syndrome
61.	Talita Candido Bueno	Implementation of Photobiomodulation (Red Light Therapy) for the Prevention of Oral Mucositis in Pediatric Oncology Patients
62.	Thomas Eipe	Phase II study to evaluate the safety and efficacy of Ruxolitinib as frontline therapy in Immune Effector Cell associated Hemophagocytic Lymphohistiocytosis-like Syndrome (IEC-HS): RIEC Study
63.	Vaidya Vedant Shripad	Optimizing Induction Therapy in Pediatric Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia: A Phase 2 Study of Pharmacokinetically-Guided Dosing of PEG-Asparaginase
64.	Vasireddy Sadasivudu	Enhancing the Diagnosis for Biliary Tract Cancer: A Prospective Validation of Bile-Based Liquid Biopsy
65.	Zannat Ara	Topology-Guided AI for Pediatric Brain Tumor Detection in Bangladesh



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