

AValiação E Financiamento Plurianual Dos Centros Académicos Clínicos 2023-2025

RESULTADO FINAL

Centro Académico de Investigação e Formação Biomédica do Algarve

A. Resultado final

No âmbito da primeira avaliação externa dos CAC, realizada de acordo com o disposto no Decreto-Lei nº 61/2018, de 3 de agosto, e nos termos do Regulamento nº 735/2021, tendo em conta o relatório de avaliação elaborado pelo painel de avaliação, enviado ao CAC a 12/12/2022, informamos que o resultado final da avaliação e financiamento do CAC é a seguinte.

| Nome CAC | Acrónimo CAC | Diretor CAC | Classificação | Financiamento |
|--|--------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Centro Académico de Investigação e Formação Biomédica do Algarve | CACABC | Pedro Castelo Branco | 3,4 (Bom) | 200.000€ |

B. Atribuição do financiamento

Conforme refere o artigo 11º do Regulamento n.º 735/2021, a atribuição do financiamento depende da assinatura pelo CAC do respetivo termo de aceitação que é disponibilizado pela FCT, após a notificação da decisão final.

Assim sendo, será enviado pela FCT a cada CAC, o respetivo Contrato-Programa, do qual faz parte integrante o Plano de Implementação das Recomendações.

No Contrato-Programa que irão receber brevemente, será disponibilizada informação mais detalhada, nomeadamente sobre o financiamento e o acompanhamento da execução do plano.

Para a elaboração do Plano de Implementação das Recomendações, que se refere ao período do financiamento (2023-2025), e cujo modelo é disponibilizado no anexo II, o CAC deve ter em conta:

- A informação apresentada na candidatura, nomeadamente objetivos e plano estratégico para 2023-2025;
- As recomendações constantes do relatório de avaliação do painel de avaliação;

- As orientações gerais para o desenvolvimento dos CAC (anexo I). Este documento foi preparado pela AICIB, com base nas recomendações do painel, para apoiar os CAC na elaboração dos respetivos planos.

O vosso plano de implementação das recomendações 2023-2025 (de acordo com o modelo disponibilizado no anexo II), deve ser enviado à AICIB, através do email cacevaluation@aicib.pt, no prazo de 20 dias úteis.

C. Acompanhamento da implementação das recomendações do painel de avaliação

De acordo com o artigo 18º do Regulamento n.º 735/2021: *Os CAC devem submeter anualmente à AICIB e à FCT, até 31 de março, do ano seguinte ao qual dizem respeito, relatórios de acompanhamento da atividade desenvolvida.*

A AICIB irá analisar os relatórios de acompanhamento anuais, cujo modelo será disponibilizado brevemente, verificando a execução do plano de implementação das recomendações.

No âmbito do apoio e acompanhamento da implementação das recomendações do painel de avaliação, a AICIB pode solicitar aos CAC, no decorrer do período de financiamento, visitas, reuniões e pontos de situação relativos à execução do plano para verificação e apoio do cumprimento do mesmo.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OF THE EVALUATION PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS

CAC NAME: Centro Académico de Investigação e Formação Biomédica do Algarve (AD-ABC)

A. CAC IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR 2023-2025

| Source | N.º | Action description | Activity description | Activity N.º | Responsible for the execution* | Start Date | End date |
|--|-----|--|--|--------------|--------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Information presented in the application (A) | A1 | Reinforce the internal organization, including the quality system. | A1.1 Manual of internal procedures and management structure of ABC consortium. | A1.1 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A1.2 Reinforce the Quality System of ABC, namely through the elaboration of an annual report to evaluates indicators such as satisfaction, process, results, and safety, in the different areas of intervention following internationally quality standards. | A1.2 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A1.3. Implement the Quality Certification of the GENELab by ABC. | A1.3 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2024 |
| | | | A1.4. Support the accreditation of CHUA Clinical services according to the international accreditation model defined by the institution. | A1.4. | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | A2 | Reinforce the research support activities, training, and healthcare services, prioritizing the joint activities of ABC consortium members. | A2.1 Maintain and reinforce the ABC Training Program, such as the collaborative program with FMCB, ABC-RI, CHUA, ARS Algarve, Health School, and Private Hospital of Algarve. | A2.1 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |

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| | A2 | Reinforce the research support activities, training, and healthcare services, prioritizing the joint activities of ABC consortium members. | A2.2 Provision of scientific/medical bibliographic resources and SPSS v29 statistical software to researchers, as well as support for statistical analysis. | A2.2 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A2.3 Reinforce ABC-NAIC dissemination, capacity and offer, namely, the support of PhD Students in the Clinical and Translational Research PhD Program and ABC-RI researchers. | A2.3 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A2.4 - Maintain and reinforce the supportive structure for the organization of thematic research and clinic symposia and conferences, including the ABC annual meeting (ABC days), and the joint activities sharing event currently under development. | A2.4 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A2.5 Attract and retain specialized human resources to Algarve region, in particular MD-PhD. | A2.5 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A2.6 Reinforce the structure, capacity and offer of ABC-CR, in collaboration with CHUA, Hospital Garcia de Orta and other Health institutions. | A2.6 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A2.7 Commitment in the training of medical emergencies in collaboration with INEM, with training of pre-hospitaler technicians. | A2.7 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |

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|--|----|--|---|-------|--------|------------|------------|
| | A2 | Reinforce the research support activities, training, and healthcare services, prioritizing the joint activities of ABC consortium members. | A2.8 Reinforce LIFE program by increasing the population training capacity in Basic Life Support with AED and implementation of the program in the Algarve as well as expanding it to other regions of the country. | A2.8 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A2.9 Creation of the Help Line 60+ to provide health support and social assistance for nursing homes and 60+ population in the Algarve region. | A2.9 | CACABC | 01/06/2023 | 01/06/2024 |
| | | | A2.10 Reinforce the support for the Rectal Cancer Reference Center, the Physical and Rehabilitation service, and the Radiology service of CHUA. | A2.10 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | A3 | Support and development of the Active and Healthy Aging Reference Center activities. | A3.1 Reinforce and establishment of new partnerships in the active and healthy ageing field, namely the Active Life program and commitment to the mediterranean lifestyle to prevent disease. | A3.1 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A3.2 Promotion of debate and discussion sessions between several community members, municipal executives, and stakeholders. | A3.2 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A3.3 Operationalization of the National Ageing Observatory in Alte (Loulé municipality). | A3.3 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |

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|--|----|--|---|------|--------|------------|------------|
| | A3 | Support and development of the Active and Healthy Aging Reference Center activities. | A3.4 Provision of the specialized services from the Movement Kinetics Lab for a differentiated rehabilitation of Algarve patients. | A3.4 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A3.5 National and international funding attraction within the scope of Active and Healthy Ageing. | A3.5 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | A4 | Support and reinforcement of ABC-RI research groups. | A4.1 Attract differentiated human resources for ABC-RI (junior and senior researchers) and support its strategical areas. | A4.1 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A4.2 Financial support for scientific research, including research facilities offer and support of publications fees, exclusively for articles published in Q1 and Q2 Journals, to meet high international standard levels. | A4.2 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A4.3 Promote interinstitutional collaboration in translational and clinical research through the grants José Mariano Gago and João Larguito, respectively. | A4.3 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A4.4 Reinforce National and European funding attraction, including ERC grants. | A4.4 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |

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|--|----|---|---|------|--------|------------|------------|
| | A5 | Reinforce the participation in national and international strategic networks. | A5.1 Maintain strategic partners as the Champalimaud Foundation and the integration in other research networks such as the National Network for Active and Healthy Ageing (REpEnSA), the Portuguese Infrastructure Network for Clinical Research (PtCRIN) and the European Innovation Partnership in Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP-AHA). | A5.1 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A5.2 Participation in national and international meetings for effective and robust cooperation, allowing both ABC, and CHUA and UAlg members to maximize their potential to participate in these networks. | A5.2 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A5.3 Maintain and reinforce the national collaboration with the IEFP and Ministry of Labor, Solidarity and Social Security. | A5.3 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A5.4. Establishment of an international collaboration with DruWo Viljem Julijan (Viljem Julijan Association for Children with Rare Diseases, Slovenia) and with the Hospital for Sick Children (Toronto, Canada). | A5.4 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A5.5. Implement strategic projects within the scope of the Collaborative Laboratory ABC CoLAB) which involves different national partners. | A5.5 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | A6 | Building planning of the facilities to expand the research activities in the Algarve (ABC Loulé Health & Research Project) and to expand the training activities and application of care in the context of Active Ageing (ABC Loulé Active Life Project). | A6.1 Building planning, construction, and acquisition of the necessary equipment for both buildings the “Mariano Gago Building” (Loulé) and the “Active Life Building” (Vilamoura), within the scope of the ABC Loulé Active Life & Health. | A6.1 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |

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|--|-----|---|---|-------|---------|------------|------------|
| | A6 | Building planning of the facilities to expand the research activities in the Algarve (ABC Loulé Health & Research Project) and to expand the training activities and application of care in the context of Active Ageing (ABC Loulé Active Life Project). | A6.2 Operacionalization of the medical genetic lab – GENELab by ABC. | A6.2 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | A6.3 Operacionalization of the advanced simulation center, which will maximize and complement the training needs of the simulation centre of the Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences of the University of Algarve. | A6.3 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| Panel recommendation (R) | R1 | Strengthen competitiveness and international research networks. | R1.1 Reinforce of National and International protocols and funding, through the promotion and support for funding calls, including ERC applications (ABC-NAIC). | R1.1 | CAC-ABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | R1.2 Attract Senior and Junior PI for ABC-RI and support their research areas. | R1.2 | CAC-ABC | 01/06/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | R2 | Increase the number of MDs with protective time. | R2.1 Maintain the Translational and Clinical Research Grants (José Mariano Gago Grant and João Larguito Claro Grant). | R2.1 | CAC-ABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | R2.2 Support the PhD Students in the Clinical and Translational Research PhD Program. | R2.2 | CAC-ABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | R2.3 Support of MDs in proposal elaboration required for allocate dedicated time to research activities in the CAC health professionals work schedule. | R2.3 | CAC-ABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | R3 | Define clear career paths | R3.1 Promote career support workshops and events | R3.1 | CAC-ABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | R3.2 Support for individual funding applications | R3.2 | CAC-ABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | R4 | Control of financial risks | R4.1 Elaboration of Procedures manual and periodic reports and annual audit in collaboration with a revision team and financial controller. | R4.1 | CAC-ABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| Both (application and recommendation) (AR) | AR1 | Strengthen competitiveness and international research networks. | AR1.1 Reinforce ABC-NAIC dissemination, capacity and offer (A2.3) providing support to PhD Students in the Clinical and Translational Research PhD Program (R2.2), workshops and events (R3.1) and national and international funding applications (A4.4, R1.1 and R3.2). | AR1.1 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | AR1.2 National and international funding attraction within the scope of Active and Healthy Ageing (A3.5) providing support for funding applications (R1.1 and R3.2) and financial support for publications fees, exclusively for | AR1.2 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|--|---|-------|--------|------------|------------|
| | AR1 | Strengthen competitiveness and international research networks. | articles published in Q1 and Q2 Journals, to meet high international standard levels (A4.2). | | | | |
| | | | AR1.3 Attract differentiated human resources for ABC-RI (junior and senior researchers) and support its strategical areas (A4.1, R1.2 and R2.3). | AR1.3 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | AR1.4 Participation in national and international meetings for effective and robust cooperation, allowing both ABC, CHUA and UAlg members to maximize their networks (A5.1 and A5.2) providing career support workshops and events (R3.1). | AR1.4 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | AR2 | Attract and retain specialized human resources to Algarve region, in particular MD-PhD with protective time. | AR2.1 Promote interinstitutional collaboration in translational and clinical research (A4.3) by maintain the Translational and Clinical Research Grants (José Mariano Gago Grant and João Larguito Claro Grant) (R2.1). | AR2.1 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | | | AR2.2 Reinforce ABC-NAIC dissemination, capacity and offer (A2.3) providing support of MDs in proposal elaboration required for allocate dedicated time to research activities in the CAC health professionals work schedule (A2.5 and R2.3). | AR2.2 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | AR3 | Define clear career paths. | AR3.1 Maintain and reinforce the ABC Training Program, such as the collaborative program with FMCB, ABC-RI, CHUA, ARS Algarve, Health School, and Private Hospital of Algarve (A2.1), providing support to the PhD Students in the Clinical and Translational Research PhD Program (R2.2) and career support initiative, such as workshops and events in collaboration with Chaperone, a company of personalized career development services for scientists (R3.1). | AR3.1 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |
| | AR4 | Reinforce the internal organization, including the quality system and financial risk control | AR4.1 Manual of internal procedures and management structure of ABC consortium (A1.1), and elaboration of Procedures manual and periodic reports and annual audit in collaboration with a revision team and financial controller (R4.1). | AR4.1 | CACABC | 01/01/2023 | 31/12/2025 |

B. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN BUDGET

| Source | N.º | Action description | 2023(€) | 2024(€) | 2025(€) | | | |
|--|-------|---|---|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|
| Information presented in the application (A) | A2 | Reinforce the research support activities, training, and healthcare services, prioritizing the joint activities of ABC consortium members. | <i>*Budget included in both (application and recommendation).</i> | | | | | |
| | A4 | Support and reinforcement of ABC-RI research groups. | | | | | | |
| Panel recommendation (R) | R1 | Reinforcement the international research competitiveness and networks. | | | | | | |
| | R2 | Increase the number of MDs with protective time. | | | | | | |
| Both (application and recommendation) (AR) | AR1.1 | Reinforce ABC-NAIC dissemination, capacity and offer (A2.3) providing support to PhD Students in the Clinical and Translational Research PhD Program (R2.2), workshops and events (R3.1) and national and international funding applications (A4.4, R1.1 and R3.2). | | | | 12.000 | 10.000 | 10.000 |
| | AR1.3 | Attract differentiated human resources for ABC-RI (junior and senior researchers) and support its strategical areas (A4.1, R1.2 and R2.3). | | | | 40.000 | 40.000 | 40.000 |
| | AR2.2 | Reinforce ABC-NAIC dissemination, capacity and offer (A2.3) providing support of MDs in proposal elaboration required for allocate dedicated time to research activities in the CAC health professionals work schedule (A2.5 and R2.3). | 15.000 | 12.000 | 12.000 | | | |
| | AR3.1 | Maintain and reinforce the ABC Training Program, such as the collaborative program with FMCB, ABC-RI, CHUA, ARS Algarve, Health School, and Private Hospital of Algarve (A2.1), providing support to the PhD Students in the Clinical and Translational Research PhD Program (R2.2) and career support initiative, such as workshops and events in collaboration with Chaperone, a company of personalized career development services for scientists (R3.1). | 3.000 | 3.000 | 3.000 | | | |

Global Budget

| Investment Description | N.º AR | 2023(€) | 2024(€) | 2025(€) | Total |
|--|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Human Resources | AR1.3 | 40.000 | 40.000 | 40.000 | 150.000 |
| | AR2.2 | 10.000 | 10.000 | 10.000 | |
| Missions | AR1.1 | 7.000 | 5.000 | 5.000 | 50.000 |
| | AR3.1 | 3.000 | 3.000 | 3.000 | |
| Demonstration, Promotion and Publication | AR1.1 | 5.000 | 5.000 | 5.000 | |
| Service procurement and acquisitions | AR2.2 | 5.000 | 2.000 | 2.000 | |

C. INDICATORS

| Indicator | Current value | Target value* | | |
|--|---|---------------|-----------|------------|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| N.º human resources of AD-ABC <i>*Corresponds to the number of employees with a contract with AD-ABC.</i> | Total: 93 Male:29 Female: 64 | Total: 2 | Total: 5 | Total: 4 |
| N.º human resources (per entity and per sex) | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| N.º MDs | 26 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| N.º MD-PhD | 9 | 5 | 5 | 8 |
| N.º PhD | 54 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| N.º MDs with protected time | 14 | 5 | 10 | 10 |
| N.º researchers (per sex) | Total ABC-RI:103 Male:42 Female: 61 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| N.º researchers with ERC | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| N.º international workers and students | 10 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| N.º research projects | 37 (2016-2022) | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| N.º clinical trials researcher initiated | 0 | 5 | 10 | 10 |
| N.º clinical trials researcher initiated per phase of drug development | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| N.º clinical trials industry sponsored | 37 (2016-2022) | 20 | 65 | 80 |
| N.º clinical trials industry sponsored, per phase of drug development | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Nº Observational studies of the researcher's initiative | 318 (2016-2022) | 80 | 100 | 120 |
| Cumulative Impact Factor (JCR) of publications | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| N.º JCR indexed publications (classified by ARLE – Article, review, letter, editorial, meeting abstracts, other) | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| % publications in 1 st quartile | 30% | 40% | 50% | 50% |
| % publications with international collaboration | 45% (2016-2022) | 50% | 60% | 60% |
| N.º publications on open access | 100 (2016-2022) | 40 | 50 | 50 |
| N.º of Clinical Practice Guidelines | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| N.º citations | 1666 (2016-2022) | 500 | 650 | 700 |
| N.º active international funded research projects | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| N.º active international funded research projects that the CAC lead | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Success rate of applications to competitive funding | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Incomes (€) | 11.500.000 | 8.000.000 | 8.500.000 | 10.000.000 |
| % Funding from public sources | 40% | 50% | 50% | 55% |
| % Funding from international sources | 15% | 20% | 30% | 40% |
| EBITDA | 464.000€ | 600.000€ | 650.000€ | 655.000€ |
| N.º patents | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| N.º national partnerships | 24 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| N.º international partnerships and networks | 7 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| CT: Internal processing time of the processes, from the submission of the study by the Promoter to the signing of the respective contract by the health unit | 36 days | 35 days | 30 days | 30 days |
| CT: Recruitment time of the first patient | 90 days | 70 days | 50 days | 45 days |
| CT: Patient recruitment rate | NA | NA | NA | NA |

D. SUMMARY IN PORTUGUESE

O Centro Académico de Investigação e Formação Biomédica do Algarve (ABC – Algarve Biomedical Center), consiste num consórcio entre o Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Algarve, E.P.E. (CHUA) e a Universidade do Algarve (UAlg). Este consórcio atua em diferentes áreas de atividade, nomeadamente, desenvolvimento, formação, assistência e investigação na área da saúde, contribuindo assim para a atualização permanente das melhores práticas dos profissionais, excelência clínica e impacto societal no Algarve.

O Plano Estratégico do ABC para 2023-2025 tem como base a estrutura e as atividades desenvolvidas nos últimos anos, em particular entre 2019-2021. O ABC, com o apoio da AD-ABC, tem vindo a desenvolver atividades de interesse para ambos os seus membros UAlg e CHUA, potenciando a capacidade de resposta e os recursos de ambas as instituições. Além disso, o ABC possui considerável capacidade de captação de recursos, podendo desenvolver as suas atividades sem o apoio financeiro dos consorciados. De acordo com a avaliação e recomendações efetuadas pelo painel de avaliação, para o triénio 2023-2025, o ABC deverá reforçar a competitividade internacional e sua participação em redes de investigação, atrair recursos humanos especializados para a região do Algarve, em particular médicos doutorados, e melhorar o controlo financeiro. Assim, o plano estratégico do ABC compromete-se a atender as recomendações mencionadas e terá como foco as seguintes ações identificadas como prioritárias: reforçar a organização interna, incluindo o sistema de qualidade e controlo de riscos financeiros; reforçar as atividades de apoio à investigação, formação e prestação de cuidados de saúde, privilegiando a atuação conjunta dos consorciados do ABC, através da manutenção e reforço do Programa de Formação do ABC, tal como o programa de colaboração com a FMCB, ABC-RI, CHUA, ARS Algarve, Escola de Saúde e Hospital Particular do Algarve; reforçar a divulgação, capacidade e oferta do ABC-NAIC, nomeadamente, o apoio a Doutorandos do Programa de Doutoramento em Investigação Clínica e Translacional e investigadores do ABC-RI de forma a promover a atração de recursos humanos especializados para a região; reforçar a captação de financiamento nacional e europeu, incluindo bolsas ERC; promover a colaboração interinstitucional em investigação translacional e clínica através de bolsas; reforçar a participação em redes estratégicas nacionais e internacionais, como a Fundação Champalimaud, a Rede Nacional para o Envelhecimento Saudável e Ativo, a Rede Portuguesa de Infraestruturas para a Investigação Clínica e a Parceria Europeia de Inovação em Envelhecimento Ativo e Saudável; implementar projetos estratégicos no âmbito do Laboratório Colaborativo ABC que envolve diferentes parceiros nacionais; desenvolvimento das atividades do Centro de Referência do Envelhecimento Ativo e Saudável. Também está previsto a construção de dois edifícios destinados a atividades de investigação e formação, o Projeto ABC Loulé Saúde & Investigação e o Projeto Vida Ativa ABC Loulé. Deste modo, constata-se que o ABC possui uma estrutura com dimensão considerável, a qual será reforçada nos próximos anos, de modo a continuar a promover a investigação biomédica de excelência, melhorias em saúde e inovação para a sociedade.

E. SUMMARY IN ENGLISH

The Academic Center for Biomedical Research and Training of the Algarve (ABC – Algarve Biomedical Center), consists in a consortium between the University Hospital Center of Algarve, E.P.E. (CHUA) and the University of Algarve (UAlg). This consortium works synergistically in different areas of activity, namely, development, training, assistance, and research in the health area, thus contributing to the permanent updating of best practices, clinical excellence, and societal impact in Algarve.

The ABC strategic plan for 2023-2025 is based on the structure and activities developed in the last years, particularly the ones from 2019-2021. ABC, with the support of AD-ABC, has been developing activities of interest for both its members, UAlg and CHUA, enhancing the response capacity and resources of both institutions. In addition, ABC has considerable fundraising capacity, being able to develop its activities without financial support from the consortium members. According to evaluation panel recommendations for the three-year period 2023-2025, the ABC should reinforce international competitiveness and research networks, attract specialized human resources to Algarve region, in particular MDs-PhD, and improve financial control. Therefore, ABC's strategic plan is committed to meet these recommendations and will focus on the following actions identified as priorities: reinforce the internal organization, including the quality system and financial risk control; reinforce the research support activities, training, and healthcare services, prioritizing the joint activities of ABC consortium members, through the maintenance and reinforcement of the ABC Training Program, such as the collaborative program with FMCB, ABC-RI, CHUA, ARS Algarve, Health School, and Private Hospital of Algarve; reinforce ABC-NAIC dissemination, capacity and offer, namely, the support of PhD Students in the Clinical and Translational Research PhD Program and ABC-RI researchers in order to promote the attraction of specialized human resources to Algarve region; reinforce national and European funding attraction, including ERC grants; promote interinstitutional collaboration in translational and clinical research through the grants José Mariano Gago and João Larguito, respectively; strengthen the participation in national and international strategic networks, such as the Champalimaud Foundation, the National Network for Active and Healthy Ageing (REpEnSA), the Portuguese Infrastructure Network for Clinical Research (PtCRIN) and the European Innovation Partnership in Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP-AHA); implement strategic projects within the scope of the Collaborative Laboratory ABC CoLAB which involves different national partners; development of the Active and Healthy Aging Reference Center activities, including the operationalization of the National Ageing Observatory in Alte and the Active Life program and commitment to the Mediterranean lifestyle to prevent disease. It is also projected the building of two research and training facilities, the ABC Loulé Health & Research Project, and the ABC Loulé Active Life Project. ABC has a considerable structure, which will be reinforced in the coming years, to continue promoting excellent biomedical research, health improvements and innovation for society.

CAC Director signature:

Date:

**PEDRO
JORGE
GOMES
TEODÓSIO
CASTELO
BRANCO**

Digitally signed by PEDRO JORGE GOMES TEODÓSIO CASTELO BRANCO
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