

# NCI's Virtual Clinical Trials Office Pilot Program

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**National Cancer Advisory Board and the  
Board of Scientific Counselors**



**Bethesda, MD**

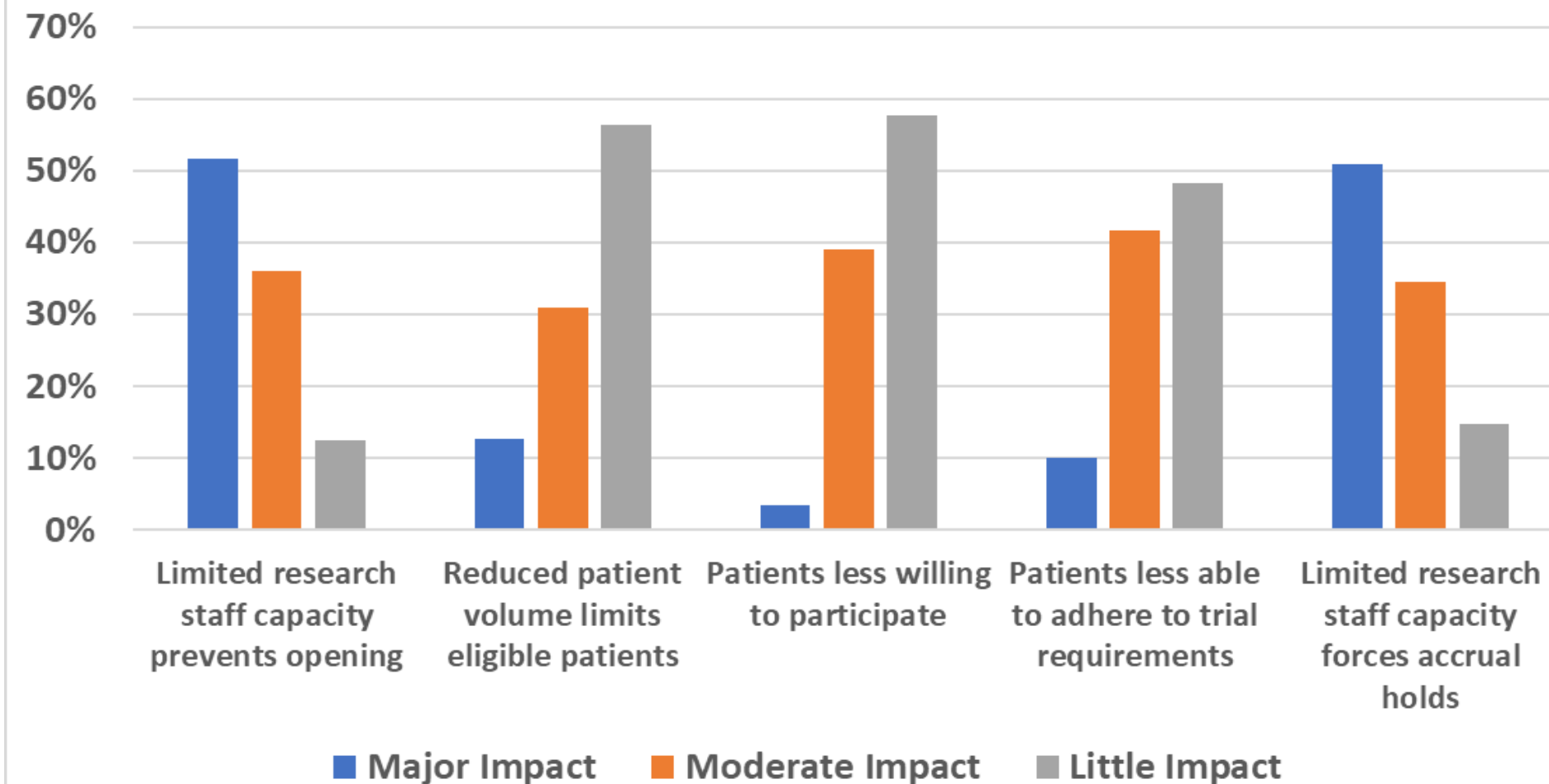
*June 12, 2024*

# Overview

- Rationale for launching the Virtual Clinical Trials Office Pilot Program
- Initial program description, metrics, and lessons learned
- Future plans
- Dr. Augusto Ochoa: Pilot VCTO at Gulf South NCORP

## Impacts of COVID Pandemic on Current Clinical Trial Capacity

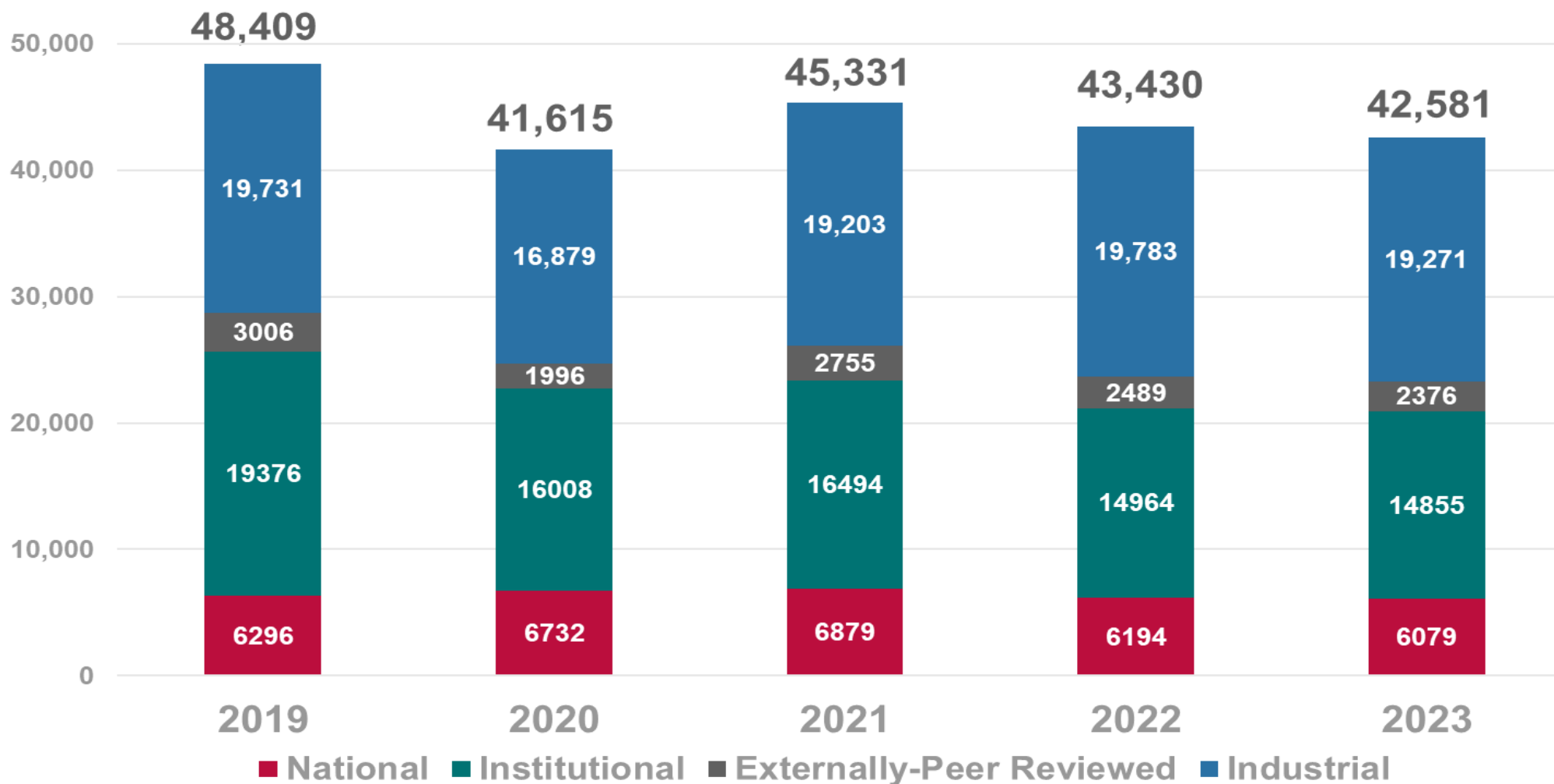
Proportion of Centers Reporting Each View



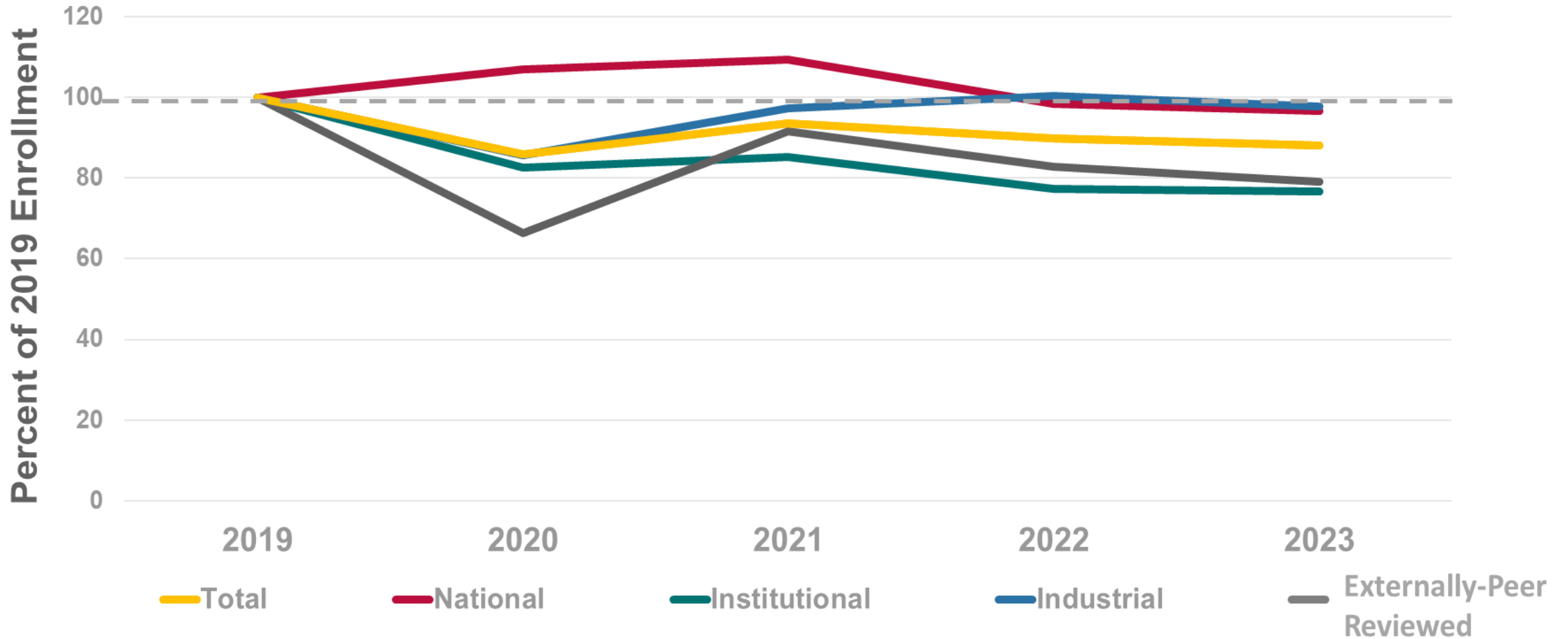
Respondent group for this question: all 64 clinical Cancer Centers

# Treatment Trial Enrollment, 2019 – 2023\*

## NCI-Designated Cancer Centers



# 2020 – 2023 Treatment Trial Enrollment\* as a Percentage of 2019 Enrollment by NCI-Designated Cancer Center Study Source



# Virtual Clinical Trials Office Components

- Research nurses, CRAs, & regulatory affairs personnel organized through NCI-Frederick National Lab Clinical Research Directorate used in past primarily by NIAID
  - ✓ Long history of providing clinical trial professionals for NIAID antiviral studies both nationally and internationally; on site and virtually, including trial auditing from EHRs located at academic health systems and private practices
- Initial services by VCTO personnel (working remotely) to support local research site health professional staff:
  - ✓ Eligibility screening and study coordination; promoting trial entry of underserved/rural patients
  - ✓ Assistance with informed consent, enrollment, protocol queries, 'help desk' functions
  - ✓ Data entry/abstraction from EHR to Medidata-RAVE for NCTN, ETCTN, NCORP trials (requiring approval by health provider to access protocol patient data in EHR by remote login)
  - ✓ Coordinating study visits, procedures, and participant reminders; all to improve retention
  - ✓ Regulatory support
  - ✓ Adverse event reporting

# Activation and Metrics

- Six sites selected to initiate program in Fall 2023 based on need for services and potential to accrue underserved and rural populations
    - ✓ Montefiore Medical Center, Einstein Campus (CCSG/NCORP)
    - ✓ University of Texas Mays Cancer Center (CCSG)
    - ✓ University of Kansas Cancer Center (CCSG/NCORP)
    - ✓ Kootenai Clinic Cancer Services, Post Falls, ID (NCORP)
    - ✓ St. Vincent Hospital Cancer Center, Green Bay, WI (NCORP)
    - ✓ Geisinger Cancer Institute, PA (NCORP)
  - Initial focus on 13 NCTN/NCORP protocols; 12/23 through 4/24:
    - ✓ 4,221 patients screened
    - ✓ 88 eligible patients identified
    - ✓ 24 accruals facilitated
- On boarded and receiving full range of services: screening, consenting, data entry: 12/23 to 4/24
- Expected to begin providing services end of May/early June 2024

# Onboarding Lessons Learned (1)

- Sequential and Concurrent Processes
  - ✓ Execution of MOU: Supplemental agreements: CDA & IT security agreements
  - ✓ Creation of site accounts for pilot staff : Addition to site CTSU roster and site delegation logs
- Epic Access
  - ✓ Prolonged process of submission to gain access to EHR, review, legal review, revision, and multi-party sign off
  - ✓ Third-Party Epic Administrators
- No Two Clinical Trial Sites the Same



# Onboarding Lessons Learned (2)



# Future Plans

- Expand services to original 6 sites
  - ✓ Add qualified affiliate sites
  - ✓ Expand range of protocols supported (from 12 to 20 including additional NCORP trials)
- Add at least 3 more lead sites including sites using Cerner EHR
- Anticipate 25-35 total lead and affiliate sites participating in pilot; focus on streamlining on-boarding process
- Consider adding long-term follow-up services to pilot menu