

# Building a national network for inpatient pediatric clinical research in Mozambique

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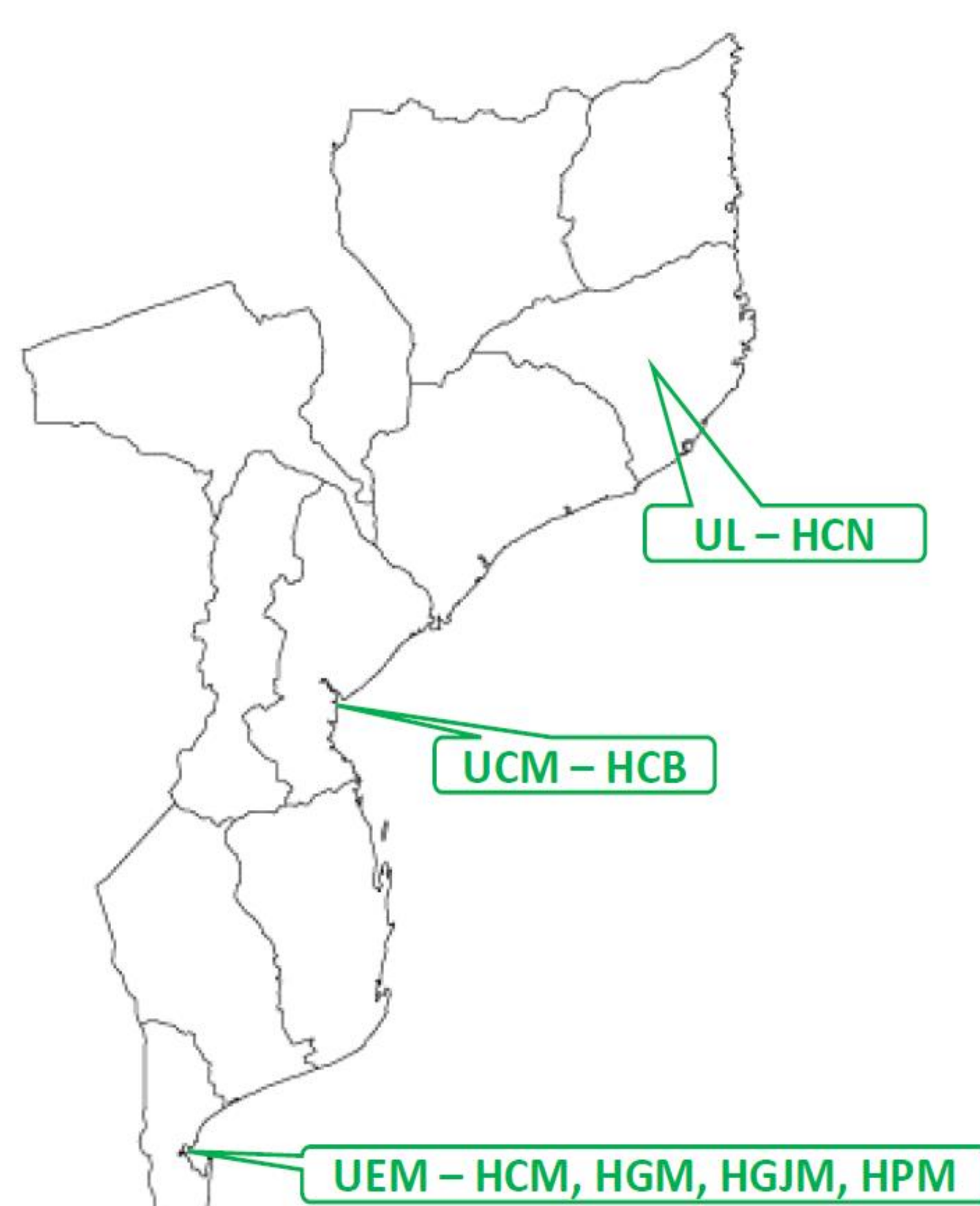
## BACKGROUND

- **Universidade Eduardo Mondlane (UEM)** and **Hospital Central de Maputo (HCM)** did not have an active pediatric research team, nor a history of collaboration on a pediatric clinical trial when they joined a consortium of established pediatric research groups from 5 other African countries in the EDCTP-funded **EMPIRICAL** trial (RIA2017MC-2013).

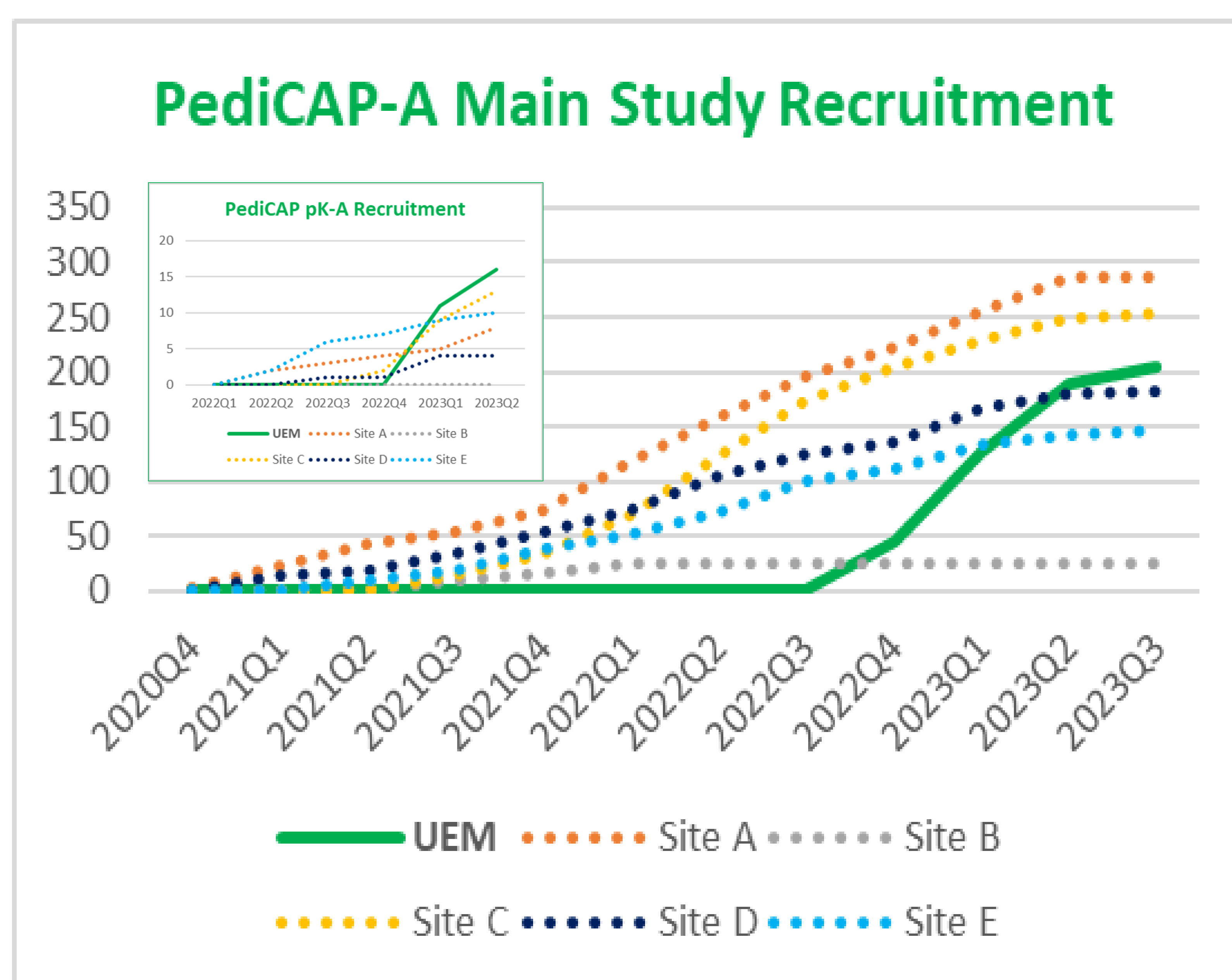
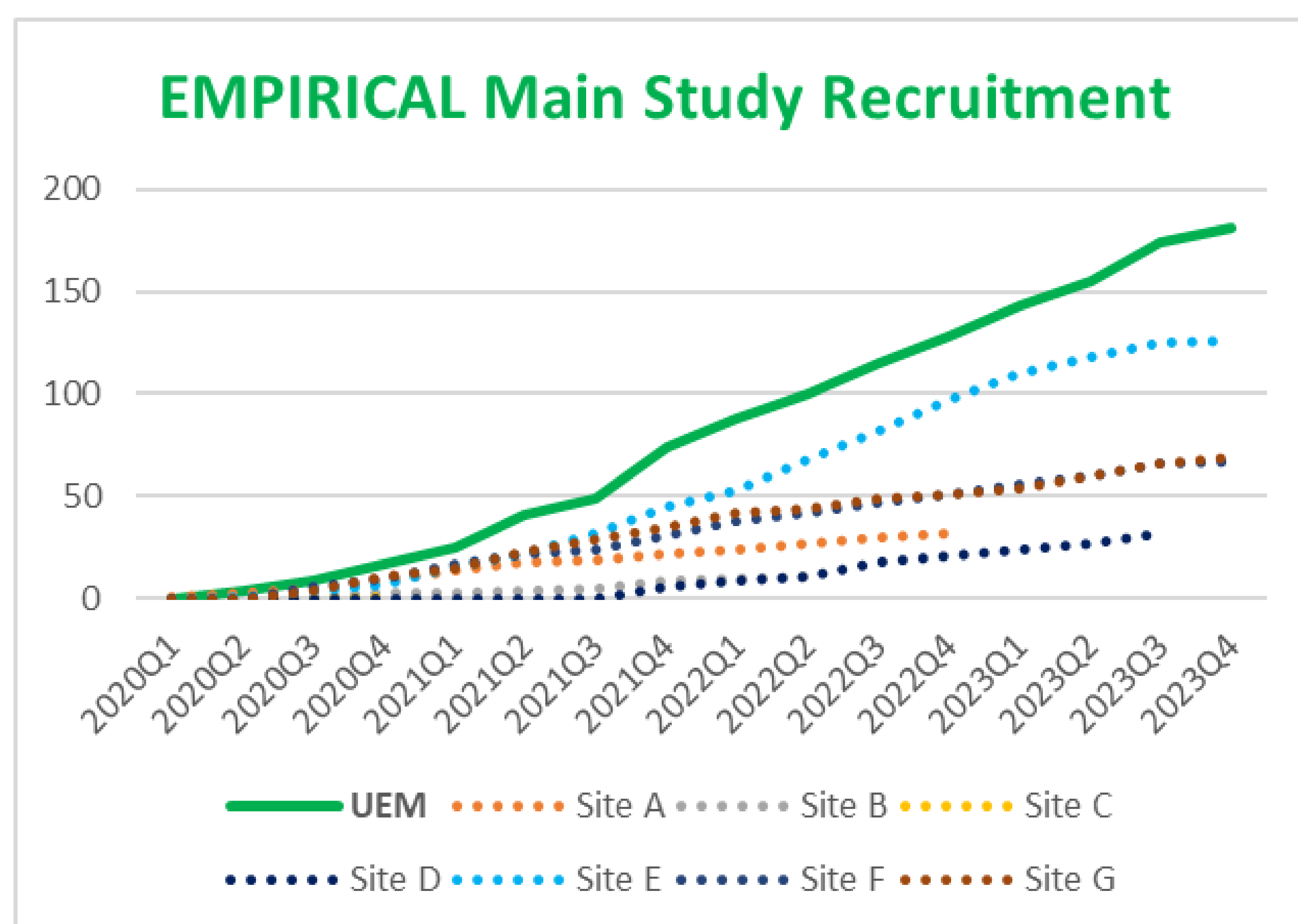
## DESCRIPTION

- A **research office** was established on the HCM pediatric wards. **Procurement and laboratory cooperation** was established with another Mozambique recruiting site, Centro de Investigação em Saúde de Manhiça.
- **Dedicated and part-time staff** were hired, including an HCM pediatrician and nurse. Comprehensive **research training** was conducted.
- Due to slow recruitment across the consortium, UEM agreed to extend to an **additional 3 hospitals** in Maputo, again **including MoH staff at each new site**.

- Recruitment was similarly extended to the principal referral/academic hospitals in the other regions of Mozambique with inclusion of **Hospital Central de Beira** in 2020 and **Hospital Central de Nampula** in 2021, in partnership with **Universidade Católica de Moçambique** and **Universidade Lúrio**.



- This network has **led recruitment** in EMPIRICAL, is participating in **four pharmacokinetic substudies** and an **autopsy substudy**, and has **2 local ancillary studies**, one with **EDCTP Career Development Fellowship** support (TMA2020CDF-3217).
- The infrastructure and capacity established through EMPIRICAL has been leveraged for additional pediatric inpatient research opportunities, with UEM leading 4 hospitals in the EDCTP-funded **PediCAP trial and PK-A study** (RIA2017MC-2023), and 2 hospitals in the **UNITED-Meningitis** diagnostic study.



## CONCLUSIONS

- A **successful pediatric inpatient research network** was quickly established in Mozambique with **donor support** that facilitated capacity building, and a model that prioritized **inclusion of Ministry of Health hospital staff** in research teams with **inter-institutional collaboration** to achieve national coverage.
- Contact Chris Buck ([w buck@mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:w buck@mednet.ucla.edu)) or Jahit Sacarlal ([jahityash2002@gmail.com](mailto:jahityash2002@gmail.com)) to discuss **potential research collaboration**.