

# **PREGART Trains Over 300 Health Professionals, Strengthening Ethiopia's Clinical Trial Workforce**

**Hawassa, Ethiopia — [November 2025]**

The PREGART Clinical Trial, funded by EDCTP2, has achieved a major national milestone by training **more than 300 healthcare professionals** in Good Clinical Practice (GCP), Good Clinical Laboratory Practice (GCLP), and protocol-driven clinical trial implementation. This accomplishment represents one of the most significant capacity-building efforts in Ethiopia's clinical trials ecosystem.

Over the past four years, PREGART has conducted **six intensive in-person training rounds**, providing high-level instruction to professionals, including obstetricians and gynecologists, Integrated Emergency Surgical Officers (IESO), medical doctors, clinical nurses, pharmacists, and laboratory technicians. Of those trained, **over 150 have gained hands-on experience** implementing the PREGART trial across multiple sites.

Beyond site-level capacity building, PREGART has engaged **more than 300 national stakeholders** in clinical trial advocacy—including regional and zonal health bureaus, the Ministry of Health, hospital administrators, community representatives, regulatory authorities, and research ethics committees—many of whom had minimal prior exposure to clinical trial implementation.

In the most recent training session, held **November 3–7, 2025**, **44 participants** from various trial site hospitals received comprehensive GCP/GCLP and protocol-related training, alongside practical, hands-on demonstrations of PREGART protocol implementation. Participants also visited the newly established **Hawassa University Clinical Trial Unit (HU\_CTU)** and the PREGART coordination office for practical sessions on trial master files (TMF) documentation and archiving.

At the conclusion of the training, the **best-performing PREGART professionals** were recognized with certificates and modest gifts, presented by **Dr. Taffese Mathewos, Vice President for Research and Collaboration at Hawassa University**. Awardees included site Principal Investigators, study nurses, pharmacists, laboratory technicians, and adherence supporters.

“This achievement represents a turning point in Ethiopia’s capacity to conduct high-quality clinical trials,” said **Dr. Abel Gedefaw, National Principal Investigator of PREGART**. “We are building a skilled workforce that will advance maternal and child health research for years to come.”

PREGART will continue its capacity-building programs, with the **next GCP/GCLP session scheduled for December 2025**, further strengthening Ethiopia’s clinical research ecosystem. The **PREGART project expresses its gratitude** to the project consortium partners— **Hawassa University (Ethiopia), Karolinska Institute (Sweden), Makerere University (Uganda), ISS (Italy)**—and to the funder **EDCTP2** for their continued support in building Ethiopia’s clinical trial capacity



Picture taken after the site Principal investigators GCP/regulatory compliance quality improvement training at Adama, Oromia, 2024





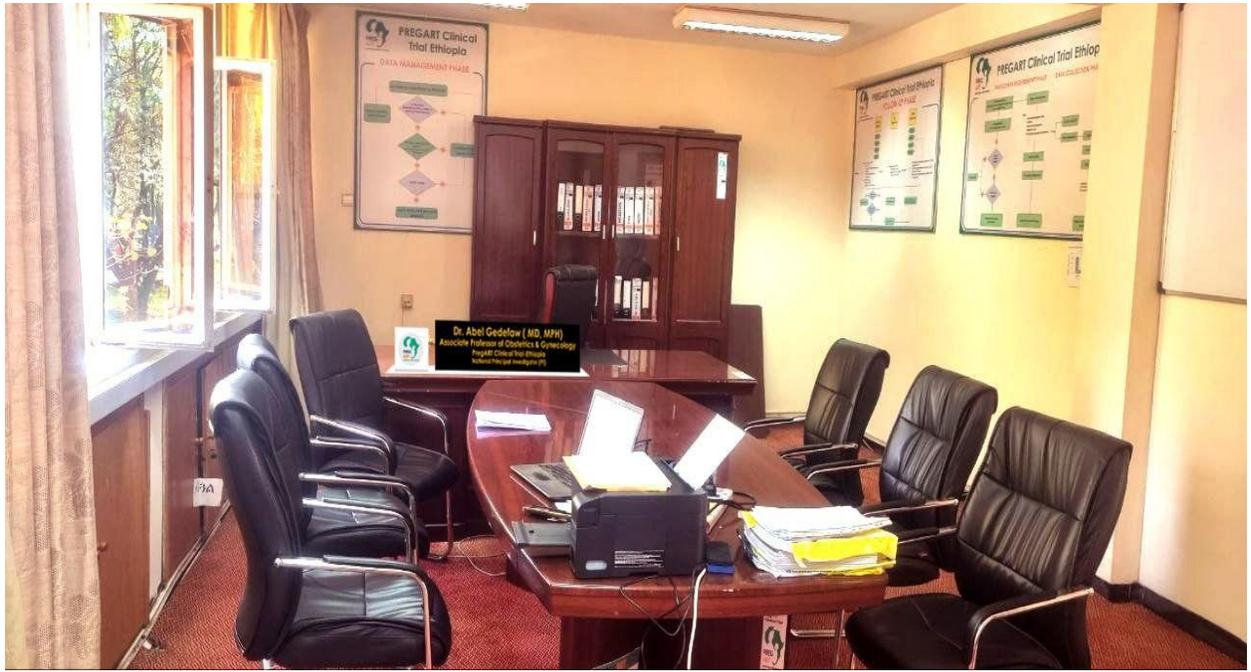
Pictures taken during the August 2024 PREGART annual meeting held at Haile resort, Hawassa, Ethiopia.













Pictures taken during the recent, Nov 03-10/2025 GCP/GCLP/protocol-related training sessions, site visit, and recognition award.