

# India CRO Market to reach USD 12.0 Billion by 2035 at 6.0% CAGR

*India CRO Market to Surge from USD 6.74 Billion in 2025 to USD 12.0 Billion by 2035—Powered by Growing Pharmaceutical R&D, Increased Clinical Trial Activity*

NY, CA, UNITED STATES, August 21, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- As per Market Research Future, the [India Contract Research Organization \(CRO\) Market](#) is projected to reach USD 12.0 Billion by 2035 from USD 6.74 Billion in 2025, at a CAGR of 6.0% during the forecast period 2025–2035. The market base was estimated at USD 6.32 Billion in 2024.



The 6.0% CAGR—anchored by structural shifts in pharmaceutical R&D and clinical development—is propelled by three converging forces: the rapid expansion of India's pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors, with the industry projected to reach USD 130 billion by 2030, driving increased demand for outsourced research services; the rising focus on clinical trials, with over 1,000 trials registered in 2025 alone, supported by India's diverse patient population and cost-effective services; and the strengthening regulatory framework and government support, including the National Biotechnology Development Strategy and tax incentives, which are creating a more favorable environment for contract research activities.

Global pharmaceutical companies and regulatory bodies are amplifying this momentum. India ranks among the top global players in pharmaceutical production, contributing approximately 3.6% to the global market. The Indian government's initiatives to streamline regulatory processes and enhance approval timelines for clinical trials are attracting both domestic and international sponsors. According to the WHO, noncommunicable diseases account for approximately 74% of global deaths, driving increased demand for innovative therapies and clinical research programs. Major CROs including IQVIA, Syneos Health, and PAREXEL International are expanding their capabilities through advanced clinical analytics, decentralized trial technologies, and strategic

partnerships, strengthening India's position as a preferred destination for outsourced research activities.

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## Key Market Trends & Growth Drivers

### Growing Pharmaceutical Sector

The India CRO Market is experiencing a notable surge, primarily driven by the expanding pharmaceutical sector. As of 2026, India ranks among the top global players in pharmaceutical production, contributing approximately 3.6% to the global market. This growth is attributed to increasing investments in research and development, with the Indian pharmaceutical industry projected to reach USD 130 billion by 2030. Consequently, the demand for CROs is rising, as pharmaceutical companies seek to outsource clinical trials and other research activities to enhance efficiency and reduce costs. The collaboration between CROs and pharmaceutical firms is expected to foster innovation and expedite drug development processes, thereby solidifying the position of the India CRO Market in the global landscape.

### Increased Focus on Clinical Trials

The India CRO Market is witnessing a significant increase in the number of clinical trials being conducted within the country. India has become an attractive destination for clinical research due to its diverse patient population and cost-effective services. The number of clinical trials registered in India has seen a steady rise, with over 1,000 trials reported in 2025 alone. This trend is further supported by the Indian government's initiatives to streamline regulatory processes and enhance the approval timelines for clinical trials. As a result, CROs are playing a pivotal role in facilitating these trials, providing essential services such as patient recruitment, data management, and regulatory compliance. Clinical Trials represent the largest application segment with 58% share in 2024.

### Rising Demand for Outsourcing Services

The India CRO Market is experiencing a rising demand for outsourcing services among pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Many organizations are increasingly recognizing the benefits of outsourcing research activities to specialized CROs, which can provide expertise, reduce operational costs, and accelerate time-to-market for new products. The outsourcing market in India is projected to grow significantly, with an estimated CAGR of 12% over the next five years. This trend is driven by the need for companies to focus on core competencies while leveraging the capabilities of CROs for clinical trials, data analysis, and regulatory compliance.

### Emergence of Biotech and Genomic Research

The India CRO Market is increasingly influenced by the emergence of biotechnology and genomic research. India is witnessing rapid growth in biotech startups and research initiatives, with the biotechnology sector projected to reach USD 100 billion by 2025. This growth is largely driven by advancements in genomics, personalized medicine, and biopharmaceuticals. CROs are becoming essential partners in this landscape, offering specialized services in areas such as bioanalytical testing, clinical trial management, and regulatory support. Biotechnology Services represent the fastest-growing service type segment in the India CRO Market.

### Government Support and Policy Initiatives

The India CRO Market is benefiting from robust government support and favorable policy initiatives aimed at promoting research and development. The Indian government has implemented various schemes to encourage investment in the life sciences sector, including tax incentives and funding for research projects. The establishment of the National Biotechnology Development Strategy has further strengthened the framework for biotech research and development. These initiatives are enhancing the operational environment for CROs, enabling them to expand their services and capabilities, and attracting more international clients.

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### Market Segment Insights

#### BY APPLICATION

**Clinical Trials:** Largest application segment with 58% share in 2024, driven by increasing drug development activity, growing sponsor outsourcing, and expanding participation in multinational studies. CROs are providing essential services such as patient recruitment, data management, and regulatory compliance.

**Regulatory Affairs:** Fastest-growing application segment, indicating a heightened focus on compliance and quality assurance. Companies are seeking to navigate complex regulatory environments effectively, with India's evolving research framework increasing sponsor confidence.

**Preclinical Research:** Significant segment supporting early-stage drug discovery and development, benefiting from India's cost advantages and skilled scientific workforce.

**Data Management:** Expanding segment driven by digital transformation in clinical research, with CROs investing in advanced data analytics and AI-driven platforms.

**Laboratory Services:** Growing segment supporting bioanalytical testing and specialized research

services across multiple therapeutic areas.

## BY SERVICE TYPE

**Pharmaceutical Services:** Largest segment with 63% share in 2024, serving as the cornerstone of the industry. This service type encompasses a wide range of research and development activities, enabling pharmaceutical companies to innovate and bring drugs to market efficiently.

**Biotechnology Services:** Fastest-growing service type segment, driven by advancements in biological research and increased investment in biopharmaceuticals. CROs are offering specialized services in areas such as bioanalytical testing, clinical trial management, and regulatory support.

**Medical Device Services:** Emerging segment supporting clinical trials for medical devices, benefiting from India's growing medical device manufacturing sector.

**Consulting Services:** Growing segment providing strategic guidance on regulatory affairs, market access, and clinical development planning.

## BY END USER

**Pharmaceutical Companies:** Dominant end-user segment with 67% share in 2024, leveraging vast resources for drug development and clinical trials. Their requirements for outsourced research are substantial, given their complex product pipelines and adherence to stringent regulatory standards.

**Biotechnology Firms:** Fastest-growing end-user segment, experiencing rapid growth in niche therapeutic areas and innovative biomanufacturing techniques. This growth is largely driven by advancements in genetic research and the increasing demand for biologics.

**Academic Institutions:** Contributing to research and development initiatives that bridge gaps in knowledge and application, occupying a smaller portion of the market.

**Government Organizations:** Playing pivotal roles in research and development initiatives, particularly in public health research and regulatory science.

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## Regional Insights: India

The India CRO Market is characterized by the accessibility of a sizable patient pool that makes recruitment simple for clinical trials. One of the main factors influencing the industry is the

global pandemic, which has highlighted the importance of robust clinical research infrastructure. Due to the high quality and speedy turnaround of its studies, India's largest, most experienced biotech CROs have observed a rise in demand from biotechnology sponsors.

For COVID-19 and other infectious disease studies, an increasing number of biotechnology companies choose India because of the country's vast patient pool, quick regulatory processes, and cost-effective services. This trend is expected to continue, strengthening India's position as a preferred destination for outsourced research activities.

Key drivers for India as a CRO destination include:

Large and diverse patient population facilitating rapid patient recruitment across multiple therapeutic areas

Cost-effective services offering significant savings compared to Western markets

Skilled scientific workforce with strong expertise in clinical research and regulatory compliance

Evolving regulatory framework with government initiatives to streamline approval timelines

Growing pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors creating substantial demand for CRO services

Competitive Landscape and Recent Developments

The India CRO Market is characterized by a dynamic competitive landscape, driven by increasing demand for clinical trials and research services. Key players are actively pursuing strategies that emphasize innovation, regional expansion, and digital transformation. The market appears moderately fragmented, with several players competing for market share, though a trend towards consolidation is evident as firms seek to enhance their capabilities and expand their geographical reach.

## KEY COMPANIES AND RECENT MILESTONES

**IQVIA (IN):** Remains a frontrunner in India's CRO industry by leveraging big data analytics and advanced clinical trial solutions. The company continues expanding product development and innovation capabilities through advanced clinical analytics, decentralized trial technologies, and biostatistical solutions. Strategic partnerships with pharmaceutical sponsors have strengthened trial efficiency and regulatory compliance.

**Syneos Health (IN):** Focuses on integrated biopharmaceutical solutions, allowing it to cater to a diverse client base while optimizing operational processes. The company has strengthened its service portfolio through acquisitions, portfolio expansion, and investments in technology-enabled clinical development. AI-driven analytics platforms are improving patient recruitment, protocol optimization, and trial monitoring.

**Syngene International:** Has strengthened its position as a leader in drug discovery, development, and manufacturing services. The company expanded its research and development capacity in

2023 by opening a state-of-the-art biotechnology facility in Bangalore. The collaboration with Bristol Myers Squibb focuses on advanced research in oncology and immuno-oncology, driving the development of next-generation therapies.

PAREXEL International (IN) (December 2025): Announced a strategic partnership with a leading Indian biotechnology firm to enhance its clinical trial capabilities in the region. This collaboration is expected to streamline processes and improve patient recruitment, thereby increasing the efficiency of clinical trials. Regulatory approvals and clinical advancements, combined with India's evolving research framework, have increased sponsor confidence.

Covance (IN) (November 2025): Launched a new digital platform aimed at improving data management and analytics for clinical trials. This initiative underscores the growing importance of digital transformation in the industry, as companies seek to harness technology to enhance operational efficiency and data accuracy.

Charles River Laboratories (IN) (October 2025): Expanded its laboratory facilities in India, focusing on enhancing its preclinical and clinical research capabilities. This expansion reflects a commitment to meeting the increasing demand for comprehensive research services in the region.

Siro Clinpharm: Has been making notable strides in clinical pharmacology services, particularly with the launch of an enhanced Clinical Trials Management System (CTMS). Their efforts in pharmacovigilance and safety monitoring are helping to ensure higher standards for patient safety during clinical trials.

Clininvent Research Pvt. Ltd. (part of TCG Lifesciences): Continues to offer end-to-end solutions for drug discovery, development, and commercialization. The company's focus on custom manufacturing and regulatory compliance, particularly through FDA-approved facilities, ensures that they meet the stringent quality requirements of the pharmaceutical industry.

Other Key Players: Medpace (IN), Clinipace (IN), KCR (IN), Pharmalex (IN) are also significant participants in the market.

#### Future Outlook: 2025–2035

The India CRO Market is poised for robust growth driven by technological advancements and increasing demand for specialized services. By 2035, the market is expected to solidify its position as a leader in clinical research services, supported by:

Expansion of decentralized clinical trial services—The shift toward decentralized and hybrid trial models, accelerated by the pandemic, is creating new opportunities for CROs to offer remote patient monitoring, direct-to-patient drug delivery, and virtual site management solutions. India's large geographic footprint and digital health infrastructure make it an ideal market for these

services.

**Development of AI-driven data analytics platforms**—The integration of artificial intelligence and machine learning into research processes is enhancing the accuracy and speed of clinical trials. CROs investing in AI-driven platforms for patient recruitment, protocol optimization, and trial monitoring will gain competitive advantage. Strategic partnerships for technology integration are becoming increasingly prevalent.

**Partnerships with biotech firms for specialized research services**—The emergence of biotechnology and genomic research is creating significant opportunities for CROs providing specialized research, bioanalytical testing, and regulatory support services. The growing burden of chronic diseases worldwide is increasing demand for new therapies and clinical development programs, encouraging pharmaceutical companies to outsource research functions to CROs.

**Strengthening regulatory framework and digital transformation**—The evolving regulatory landscape in India is fostering a more favorable environment for contract research activities. Enhanced guidelines and support from government bodies are encouraging both domestic and international firms to engage with local CROs. Digital transformation, sustainability, and the integration of artificial intelligence will continue to shape the competitive landscape.

**Rising demand for innovative drug development and personalized medicine**—The increasing focus on precision medicine, genomics, and biologics is creating new service opportunities for CROs. India's cost advantages, diverse patient population, and growing research infrastructure position it well to capture a significant share of global clinical research outsourcing.

The next decade will see the India CRO Market transform from a cost-driven outsourcing destination into a full-service innovation hub, characterized by advanced technological capabilities, specialized expertise, and strategic partnerships, steadily progressing to its USD 12.0 Billion 2035 destination.

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