

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

EDCTP update is a monthly newsletter from the European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership.



EDCTP

The Power of Sharing Science

EDCTP update

February 2017



Supported by the EU

News

UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on Global Health hosted meeting on value of EDCTP

The meeting on EDCTP as 'African-European partnership for global health benefit' took place on 27 February 2017 at the Houses of Parliament in London, United Kingdom. It was hosted by Dr Daniel Poulter MP of the UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on Global Health.



The development of paediatric fixed-dose combination therapy for HIV-infected children in two EDCTP-funded trials, CHAPAS-1 and CHAPAS-3, was presented as a case study of the impact of the programme. CHAPAS-1 resulted in the first paediatric antiretroviral formula which was rolled out on a large scale. CHAPAS-3 developed paediatric formulas for a new generation of antiretrovirals. Dr Veronica Mulenga, paediatrician at the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka, Zambia and Professor Diana Gibb, programme Leader of the Paediatric Programme of trials and cohorts at the MRC Clinical Trials Unit at University College London, United Kingdom presented these trials.

A short video showed how this EDCTP collaborative research had a direct impact on patient health and future possibilities of a small boy from Malawi.



[Read more](#)



PredART trial: prednisone reduces risk of TB-IRIS in HIV-infected patients by 30%

Results of the EDCTP-funded PredART clinical trial, led by Dr Graeme Meintjes, University of Cape Town, South Africa were presented at the 2017 Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI) ([Abstract #81LB](#)) on 15 February 2017. The trial showed that prednisone, a cheap drug readily accessible in low- and middle-income countries, reduces the risk of developing TB-

IRIS by 30% in patients on tuberculosis (TB) treatment starting antiretroviral therapy (ART). The trial also showed that prednisone is safe when used in patients with advanced HIV.

The findings of the PredART trial provide the first evidence of an effective strategy to reduce the risk of this very common complication of starting ART in HIV-infected patients undergoing TB treatment.

[Read more](#)

Cryptococcal meningitis trials

At CROI2017, results of a phase II lead-up trial [AMBITION-CM](#) on treating HIV-related cryptococcal meningitis with high-dose, long-acting liposomal amphotericin B (L-AmB), [were presented by Dr Joseph Jarvis](#) (Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Gaborone, Botswana).

The trial demonstrated that a single high-dose of L-AmB was as effective at treating cryptococcal meningitis as longer courses of L-AmB, and with much lower toxicities than with the standard amphotericin B deoxycholate treatment.

At minute 12 of the [CROI webcast](#), it was announced that this study will be followed up by the larger phase III AMBITION-CM trial, which is jointly funded by EDCTP, DFID, MRC-UK and Wellcome Trust and also led by Dr Joseph Jarvis (London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London, UK, currently based at the Botswana-UPenn Partnership in Gaborone, Botswana).

The project is in alignment with the EDCTP HIV research priority of reducing short- and long-term ART-associated complications ([EDCTP Strategic Research Agenda for 2017](#)) and contributes to funding research on neglected infectious diseases. According to the [2016 G-FINDER report](#), cryptococcal meningitis is one of the most neglected diseases as regards to R&D funding with each of these diseases receiving less than 0.5% of annual R&D funding.

Since the start of the second programme in 2014, EDCTP has funded 12.4 million Euros of research on HIV-related cryptococcal meningitis, which has a mortality rate of approximately 40% and accounts for approximately 11% of all HIV-related mortality in adults in resource-limited settings.

Eighth EDCTP Forum Video

The Ministry of Health of Zambia produced a video on the Eighth EDCTP Forum. It gives an informative impression of the Forum and a clear explanation of EDCTP's goals through interviews with Dr Mark Palmer (Chair of the EDCTP Board), Dr Michael Makanga (EDCTP Executive Director), Dr Leonardo Simão (EDCTP High Representative South) and Prof. Moses Bockarie (EDCTP Director of South-South Cooperation).





"All countries can do well in Science, Technology and Innovation', says Minister Pandor during AAAS Award"

The Minister Science and Technology Minister, Naledi Pandor was honoured by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) with the prestigious 2016 award for Science Diplomacy.

The AAAS award was bestowed on the Minister during a ceremony at the 183rd AAAS Annual Meeting on 18 February 2017. Minister Pandor was recognised for her work in integrating science in policymaking within South Africa, and also for advocacy for young scientists, particularly women.

[Read more](#)

EDCTP Financial and Project Management Training to take place in Johannesburg, South Africa on 7-8 March 2017

EDCTP Director of Finance and Administration, Abdoulie Barry, and the Director of North-North Cooperation, Dr Ole Olesen, will conduct again a financial and project management training in Johannesburg, South Africa, for finance and project management staff of EDCTP-funded projects. The training will take place in Johannesburg, South Africa on 7 and 8 March 2017.

The main objectives of this workshop are to help participants improve their understanding of key financial management terms and principles, understand the internal control and risk management implications of some of the decisions they take, and understand the importance of putting in place sound financial management systems; and to equip participants with skills and knowledge on how to effectively and efficiently manage collaborative projects with multiple international collaborators.

This will be the **9th training** for grantees provided by EDCTP since 2012.

Newly signed grants

PanACEA

PanACEA, a drug development programme to shorten and simplify treatment of tuberculosis

Stichting Katholieke Universiteit [Foundation Catholic University] (RUNMC), Netherlands with partners from Gabon, Germany, Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Switzerland, Tanzania, Uganda, and United Kingdom

Starting date: 1 March 2017

Duration: 60 months

Grant budget: EUR 11,394,775

Grant agreement: TRIA-2015-1102

EAPI

East Africa pharmacovigilance initiative

University of Nairobi, Kenya with a partner from Kenya

Starting date: 1 March 2017

Duration: 36 months

Grant budget: EUR 300,000

Grant agreement: CSA-Ethics-876

[More about EDCTP projects](#)

Recent publications



Interview with Dr Michael Makanga in Impact magazine



Eighth EDCTP Forum: abstracts in BMJ Global Health



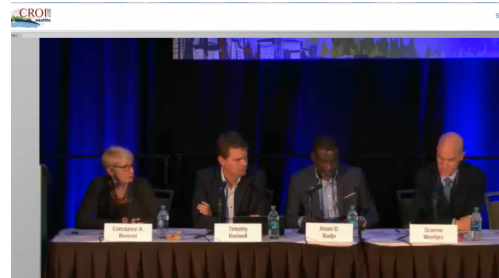
G-FINDER 2016 report on R and D for neglected infectious diseases



DSW - 10 Recommendations - nr.9 Strengthen EDCTP

Recent events

- PredArt at CROI** | Results of the EDCTP-funded clinical study PredArt led by Dr Graeme Meintjes, University of Cape Town, South Africa were presented at CROI 2017. See the [press release](#) with links to the project website, the [CROI2017 press conference](#) and the EDCTP project video.
- G-Finder report 2016** | The G-FINDER 2016 report on R&D for neglected (infectious) diseases was launched in Brussels on 16 February 2017; [images of the presentation](#) at Friends of Europe. Part of this launch event was co-chaired by [EC Commissioner Moedas and Bill Gates co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#). Dr Michael Makanga, EDCTP Executive Director, was invited to attend and EDCTP featured prominently. Go to the [G-FINDER public search tool](#).
- TB Vaccines** | Latest progress on TB biomarkers and TB vaccines were discussed at the [TBVI symposium in Les Diablerets on 1 and 2 Feb](#) in conjunction with the [TBVAC2020 Annual Meeting](#). Dr Ole Olesen, EDCTP Director of North-North cooperation, participated as member of the External Advisory Committee for TBVAC2020.
- Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations** | A new [Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations](#) was officially launched at Davos on 18 January 2017 ([press release](#)). The coalition wants to stop future epidemics by developing new vaccines. Stakeholders partners from international organisations, governments, the pharmaceutical industry, public and philanthropic R&D funders, academia, NGOs and civil society groups agreed at the 2016 World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos to explore new ways to drive vaccine innovation for priority public health threats, in alignment with the WHO R&D Blueprint for action to prevent epidemics. This initiative is CEPI - the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations ([factsheet](#)). Professor Marcel Tanner, EDCTP High Representative North, represented EDCTP at the meeting.



Recent tweets

- International research collaboration** | International science collaboration growing at astonishing rate [Phys.org](#) 18 february 2017
- Open access** | Gates Foundation strikes deal to allow its researchers to publish in *Science* journals, [Science](#) 15 February 2017
- .



EDCTP | +31 70 344 0880 | info@edctp.org | www.edctp.org

The EDCTP2 programme is supported under Horizon 2020, the European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation

STAY CONNECTED:



EDCTP, Anna van Saksenlaan 51, Den Haag, 2593 HW Netherlands

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by newsletter@edctp.org in collaboration with

Constant Contact 

Try it free today