

EDCTP Update | July 2025



Highlights



Explore the EDCTP Annual Report 2024

As more EDCTP2-funded projects finish and share their findings, it's clear that the programme is making a significant impact on health in sub-Saharan Africa. The 2024 Annual Report showcases how EDCTP2-funded projects are generating valuable evidence that informs policy and practice, ultimately benefiting people in sub-Saharan Africa.

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First malaria treatment for babies and young infants receives approval

Swissmedic has granted authorisation of Coartem® (artemether-lumefantrine) Baby as the first malaria treatment specifically for young infants weighing less than 5 kg. This milestone follows positive results from the CALINA study conducted by the EDCTP2-funded PAMAFrica consortium. Developed by Novartis in collaboration with the Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV) and various European and African institutions, this formulation offers new hope in the fight against malaria.

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Public Consultation on the TRUST Code Supplement

A public consultation is currently underway regarding the TRUST Code Supplement, which aims to establish a Global Code of Conduct for Research in Fragile Settings. This is a vital opportunity for stakeholders to contribute their insights on essential research practices within contexts that are often challenging, such as disaster or post-disaster areas, conflict or post-conflict zones, and high-crime informal settlements. Your input is crucial in shaping responsible and effective research methodologies in these sensitive environments. The deadline is 15 August 2025.

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Recent events



EDCTP Association hosts webinar on its role as coordinator

of Global Health EDCTP3 calls

On 10 and 11 July 2025, the EDCTP Association successfully conducted webinars aimed at guiding applicants through the second-stage application process for two calls for proposals funded by Global Health EDCTP3. The first webinar focused on the [Global collaborative action for strengthening the Regional Networks of Excellence and Epidemic Preparedness Consortia Call](#), while the second highlighted the [Strategic Training Hubs for Fellowships in Public Health covering Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Modelling](#), which are funded under the 2025 Work Programme of Global Health EDCTP3.

These webinars served to clarify the roles of Global Health EDCTP3, the EDCTP Association and the Scientific Project Leader. It also provided essential guidance on proposal preparation and the allocation of lump sum funding. The EDCTP Association will act as the Coordinator of the second-stage proposals and of projects selected for funding. The EDCTP Association congratulates applicants on proceeding to the second stage.

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Celebrating 25 years of advanced vaccinology training

The 25th edition of the Advanced Course of Vaccinology ([ADVAC](#)) was successfully held at Les Pensières in Annecy, France, from 5-16 May 2025. This course welcomed 76 participants from 46 countries, who engaged in an intensive curriculum designed to equip them with advanced knowledge and skills in vaccinology. Throughout its 25 years, ADVAC has fostered a robust network of over 1,500 alumni worldwide, highlighting its vital role in shaping the future of vaccinology. Between 2021 and 2024, EDCTP supported 23 ADVAC fellows from various African countries, further enhancing the course's impact. Notably, eight fellows were sponsored for this year's course, as part of the UK's commitment to the EDCTP Association. Congratulations to all who completed this year's course!

Looking ahead, the 26th edition of ADVAC is scheduled for 11-26 May 2026, with registration open until 15 November 2025.

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Promising alternative drugs for TB treatment identified in clinical studies

Clinical studies have revealed two promising antibiotics, sutezolid and delpazolid, as potential safer alternatives to the drug linezolid for treating tuberculosis (TB). These findings, part of the EDCTP2-funded PanACEA Consortium, underscore the safety of these new treatments, particularly for patients requiring extended therapy. The results were published on 8 July 2025 in two peer-reviewed articles in *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*.

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Pediatric Praziquantel Consortium meets in Abidjan

On 1-2 July 2025, the Pediatric Praziquantel Consortium gathered in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, for an important two-day meeting, hosted by the Ministry of Health of Côte d'Ivoire and the Consortium's coordinating partner, Lygature. This meeting brought together consortium partners and key stakeholders from around the world to discuss significant advancements in the fight against schistosomiasis, particularly in preschool-aged children.

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PDMC-II study achieves milestone: recruitment completed of children for malaria prevention research

In early June 2025, the Post-Discharge Malaria Chemoprevention ([PDMC-II](#)) study successfully completed the recruitment of 917 children under five years of age suffering from severe anaemia in malaria-endemic regions. The study aims to evaluate whether monthly post-discharge malaria chemoprevention (PDMC) using a combination of dihydroartemisinin-piperaquine and azithromycin (DP+AZ) over a four-month period is more effective than PDMC with DP alone in reducing all-cause sick-child clinic visits (SCCV) within six months following discharge. The trial is taking place in Jinja and Kitgum (Uganda), Kisumu and Busia (Kenya), and Zomba and Lilongwe (Malawi).



Advancing malaria policy: insights from the EACCR3 Engagement Meeting

On 11 July 2025, the East African Consortium for Clinical Research ([EACCR3](#)) hosted a one-day Malaria Policy Engagement Meeting that brought together researchers, national policymakers, and county health leaders from Kilifi, Kwale, and Mombasa counties. This meeting was organised within the framework of the EDCTP-funded EACCR3 malaria work package, highlighting the importance of collaboration between malaria research and policy.

The event served as a vital platform for dialogue, fostering connections among key stakeholders dedicated to fighting malaria in Kenya and the broader East African region. During the meeting, attendees shared valuable insights on current malaria research, discussed various challenges in policy implementation, and explored locally-driven solutions. This collaborative approach among researchers, communities, and policymakers is crucial for promoting the translation of evidence into practical strategies that can effectively prevent and ultimately eliminate malaria.

EDCTP Fellows



Sheila's journey: pioneering health research in sub-Saharan Africa

In a world where gender disparities in academia persist, Dr. Sheila Agyeiwaa Owusu's journey stands as a beacon of hope and inspiration for aspiring female researchers in sub-Saharan Africa. A TALENT Programme Fellow from Ghana, Sheila is currently pursuing her PhD at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. Click on the image to watch her video, and read more about her journey below.

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FETP-CV closing seminar: a milestone in public health training

The Field Epidemiology Training Programme in Cape Verde (FETP-CV) concluded its first cycle with a six-day seminar held in Mindelo, São Vicente, from 9-14 July 2025. This

significant event, themed 'Scientific Production and Transition to New Challenges', gathered institutional representatives, faculty members, and 15 Master's students from Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, and São Tomé and Príncipe. The FETP-CV closing seminar not only celebrated academic achievements but also laid the foundation for a new generation of public health leaders in Portuguese-speaking Africa.

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Publications

EDCTP is a member of [Europe PMC](#). This enables EDCTP-funded researchers to share their publications via one central location. Sharing publications by EuropePMC also ensures compliance with EDCTP grant requirements to make publications openly accessible as soon as possible. [Submit your manuscript through Europe PMC Plus](#).

- PLOS Global Public Health: [Clinical outcomes of participants of a TB prevalence survey with an abnormal chest X-ray but no evidence of TB disease after a median follow-up of 9 months in Zambia and South Africa](#). Ruperez M, et al. 20 June 2025
- Plos Neglected Tropical Diseases: [Efficacy and safety of albendazole 400 mg for 30 days compared to single dose of ivermectin in adult patients with low Loa loa microfilaremia: A non-inferiority randomized controlled trial](#). Ndong Akomezoghe L, et al. 20 June 2025
- Pharmacogenomics: [Genetic polymorphisms and adverse reactions to antituberculosis therapy](#). Gunter HM, et al. 20 June 2025
- Malaria Journal: [Comprehensive analysis of molecular markers linked to antimalarial drug resistance in Plasmodium falciparum in Northern, Northeastern and Eastern Uganda](#). Olupot-Olupot P, et al. 13 June 2025
- PLoS neglected tropical diseases: [Community surveys of the prevalence, distribution, and coinfection of helminth and protozoan infections in semiurban and rural areas of Gabon, Central Africa](#). Dejon-Agobé JC, et al. 12 June 2025
- AIDS Research and Therapy: [High prevalence of co-infections with latent tuberculosis, syphilis and hepatitis B and C among people with HIV in Ghana: a call for integrating screening into routine care](#). Lamptey H, et al. 10 June 2025
- Thyroid Research: [Prevalence of thyroid dysfunction in highly active antiretroviral therapy -Exposed people living with human immunodeficiency virus](#). Adan A, et al. 10 June 2025
- BMJ Open: [Perceptions of hospital feeding practices among mothers of infants with severe pneumonia in Malawi: a qualitative descriptive study](#). Hoekstra NE, et al. 8 June 2025
- Frontiers in Nutrition: [Supplementation with ready-to-use therapeutic food has no effect on adverse outcomes among undernourished children aged 6–59 months with severe pneumonia](#). Nalwanga D, et al. 6 June 2025
- Frontiers in Immunology: [In silico multi-epitope-based vaccine design for Mycobacterium avium complex species](#). Kashiri L, et al. 5 June 2025
- Frontiers in Public Health: [High prevalence of undisclosed antiretroviral drug use among individuals initiating HIV treatment in Gaborone, Botswana](#). Moraka NO, et al. 5 June 2025
- Journal of Clinical Tuberculosis and Other Mycobacterial Diseases: [Performance of CAD4TB artificial intelligence technology in TB screening programmes among the adult population in South Africa and Lesotho](#). Nzimande N, et al. 4 June 2025
- The Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy: [Population pharmacokinetics of weight-based compared with fixed dosing of CAP256V2LS, a broadly neutralizing antibody for HIV prevention in women](#). Mahomed S, et al. 3 June 2025
- Journal of Parasitology Research: [The Association Between Malaria Parasite Geometrical Mean and Clinical Spectrum of Severe Disease in a High-Transmission Setting in Eastern Uganda: A Cross-Sectional Study](#). Egiru EI, et al. 2 June 2025
- Clinical Nutrition Open Science: [Early versus delayed enteral nutrition in critically ill](#)

[children under 12 years of age: A systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials](#). Visser M, et al. 1 June 2025

- Journal of the International AIDS Society: [Household economic impact of HIV-associated cryptococcal meningitis in five countries in Southern and Eastern Africa](#). Lawrence DS, et al. 1 June 2025
- The New England journal of medicine: [Three Cases of Vertical Transmission of Clade Ib Mpox Virus](#). Vakaniaki EH, et al. 1 June 2025.

Resources

- EDCTP | [Knowledge Hub: Tools and guidance for conducting clinical research](#)
- EDCTP | [Alumni Network](#)
- ERUDIT | [Planning for Financial Sustainability manual](#)
- TRUST project | [A Global Code of Conduct for Equitable Research Partnerships](#)
- PACTR | [Open access clinical trial registry](#)
- PAVIA project | [PV strengthening blue-print](#)
- PREPARED | [Free training materials on research ethics](#)

Training and funding opportunities

2025-26 EDCTP COMPASS Fellowship Scheme | Deadline for applications: 15 August 2025

The 2025-26 EDCTP COMPASS Fellowship Scheme, a collaboration between the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and the EDCTP Association, offers opportunities for Master's programmes in Africa. It includes a two-year training component leading to an LSHTM Master's degree in Clinical Trials or Epidemiology via Distance Learning and a policy or research-focused internship lasting 6 to 12 months. Candidates can apply for a full fellowship covering both components or a part-fellowship for either component. Host institutions for the internships must be in sub-Saharan Africa and involved in ongoing research with LSHTM. The deadline to submit applications is 15 August 2025. LSHTM manages the selection and administration of the fellowship.

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MOHRE training programme | Deadline for applications: 31 August 2025

Applications are now open for the Master of Health Research Ethics (MOHRE) training programme at Universiti Malaya (UM) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, set to commence in October 2025. This one-year, blended-learning Master's program is a collaborative effort between Universiti Malaya and the Berman Institute of Bioethics at Johns Hopkins University, with support from the Fogarty International Center, NIH.

The MOHRE programme is designed for professionals engaged in Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) and Research Ethics Committees (RECs), as well as researchers and academics with a keen interest in the field of bioethics. This unique opportunity aims to equip participants with the necessary skills and knowledge to navigate the ethical challenges in health research.

For exceptional candidates from low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) in Southeast Asia, scholarships may be available to facilitate their participation in this programme, with a deadline for scholarship applications on 31 July 2025. The general application deadline is 31 August 2025.

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26th Advanced course of vaccinology | Deadline for applications: 15 November 2025

Applications are now open for the Master of Health Research Ethics (MOHRE) training ADVAC is a two-week training programme for decision-makers, including academia, industry, governmental and non-governmental agencies. The course aims to facilitate critical decision-making in vaccinology by providing participants with a comprehensive overview of the various aspects of vaccinology. The next edition will take place from 11-26 May 2026 in Les Pensières, France. Registrations are open until 15 November 2025.

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Mark your calendar

Digital Health Africa 2025 | 3-4 September 2025

The second Digital Health Africa Conference is set to be a dynamic hybrid event taking place simultaneously in Pretoria, Kampala, and Berlin from 3-4 September 2025, with virtual participation options available. The conference will focus on maternal and child health, aiming to serve as an incubator for innovative ideas and to foster the development of long-term, cross-disciplinary collaborations.

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EDCTP Communications thanks everyone who provided information for this Update.



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