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EDCTP Update | April 2026



Highlights



Coartem® Baby receives WHO prequalification

Coartem® Baby, the first malaria treatment developed specifically for newborns and young infants, has received WHO prequalification. In 2025, Swissmedic and Ghana's Food and Drugs Authority authorised the treatment following the positive results of the CALINA study conducted by the EDCTP2-funded PAMAfrica consortium. This milestone now paves the way for broad access to the treatment through public health systems.

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EDCTP Association and University of Oxford to partner for new GloPID-R Secretariat term

The EDCTP Association, in partnership with the Pandemic Sciences Institute at the University of Oxford, has secured funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation framework programme to host the GloPID-R Secretariat for the next three years. The University of Oxford has been a partner in all previous Secretariat grants and will continue in this role for the new grant term. The new Secretariat will build on the achievements of the previous Coordinating Secretariat, hosted by the Charité Center for Global Health at Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin from January 2023 to April 2026.

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Driven to end malaria: how the EDCTP Association turns innovation into impact

On World Malaria Day 2026, under the global theme “Driven to End Malaria: Now We Can. Now We Must”, the EDCTP Association is showcasing how its second programme, EDCTP2, is helping to turn scientific breakthroughs into real-world impact across sub-Saharan Africa.

With a malaria portfolio of around 65 projects and an investment of €156 million, EDCTP2 supports the development, evaluation and deployment of new vaccines, drugs, diagnostics, and integrated delivery strategies.

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European Commission announces new global health commitments

The European Commission intends to pledge €700 million to the Global Fund to defeat HIV, tuberculosis and malaria. It will also invest €46.5 million to strengthen health security in Africa and Europe, with a focus on tackling antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The EDCTP Association is a proud partner in this important initiative, working with the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, the European Food Safety Authority, the International Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance Solutions, and others to strengthen the One Health workforce and mobilise efforts to tackle AMR.

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Ten researchers supported by EDCTP who are shaping the future of global health

Meet a group of outstanding researchers who received support from EDCTP over the years through fellowships, research projects, and capacity-building initiatives, and who now stand as global leaders in science, policy, and public health. Their work is driving advances in malaria genomics, HIV treatment, tuberculosis research, epidemic surveillance and medicines regulation.

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Recent events



WANETAM holds High-Level Convening Workshop on Pan-African Health and Clinical Trials Data Sharing in Abuja

The West African Network of Excellence for TB, AIDS and Malaria (WANETAM), in collaboration with the Medical Research Council The Gambia at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (MRCG at LSHTM) and Africa CDC, recently convened over 50 key stakeholders in Abuja to chart a bold, continent-wide roadmap for health and clinical trials data sharing. From tackling data silos and governance challenges to championing federated data platforms and “collaborative data sovereignty,” the workshop culminated in the Abuja Declaration—a commitment to a unified Pan-African health data ecosystem.

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EDCTP2 project news



PREV_PKDL: New study identifies immune signals that track visceral leishmaniasis treatment success

The ImmStat@Cure study, conducted under the PREV_PKDL project and led by the European Vaccine Initiative (EVI), provides important insights into how patients with visceral leishmaniasis recover during treatment. By analysing systemic immune responses in patients treated at clinics across East Africa, researchers identified key immune and inflammatory markers that may help track treatment success.

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Stool4TB study: Advancing non-sputum diagnostics for tuberculosis in vulnerable populations

Tuberculosis (TB) remains one of the world's deadliest infectious diseases, yet diagnosing it in children and people living with HIV is still incredibly challenging. The Stool4TB study addressed this gap by evaluating an innovative stool-based quantitative PCR (qPCR) assay as a potential point-of-care diagnostic. Read on to explore what the study uncovered and what it could mean for diagnosing TB in vulnerable populations.

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EDCTP Fellows



Prof. Jonny Peter receives gold medal for groundbreaking allergy research

EDCTP Fellow Professor Jonny Peter (South Africa) has been awarded the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) Gold Scientific Excellence Award in recognition of his seminal contributions that have had a profound impact on public health.

Recognised by the SAMRC as a leading authority in allergology, Professor Peter has helped transform clinical practice, inform global policy, and improve health outcomes for patients affected by tuberculosis, HIV, and allergic diseases.

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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](#).

- Virology Journal: [Coreceptor usage of plasma and cerebrospinal fluid-derived HIV-1 subtype C variants](#). Sirkisson S, et al. 4 April 2026
- Journal of the International AIDS Society: [Impact of Tenofovir Alafenamide Sub-Dermal Implant Insertion Site Scarring on Acceptability and HIV Prevention Preferences: A Prospective Cohort Study in Durban, South Africa](#). Gengiah T N, et al. 1 April 2026
- African Journal of Primary Health Care & Family Medicine; [Capacity development of researchers involved in guideline development in Malawi, Nigeria and South Africa: A mixed-methods study](#). Mazibuko R P, et al. 31 March 2026
- JMIR Research Protocols; [Clinical Evaluation of Pediatric Pulse Oximeters in South Africa: Protocol for a Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial](#). Schuh H B, et al. 30 March

- 2026
- International Journal of Nanomedicine: [Mycobacterium smegmatis Response to Superparamagnetic Iron Oxide Nanoparticles \(SPIONs\)](#). Badejo M V, et al. 25 March 2026
 - HGG Advances: [Sex-stratified genetic regulators of cytokine production in the Dutch and Tanzanian populations](#). Amour C, et al. 18 March 2026
 - International Journal for parasitology. Drugs and Drug Resistance: [TRPtracker: a community database for monitoring praziquantel sensitivity at TRPMPZQ variants](#). Rohr C M, et al. 18 March 2026
 - Plos Neglected Tropical Diseases: [External quality assessment for yaws elimination in low- and middle-income countries using plasmid-based proficiency test items](#). Mueller C, et al. 13 March 2026
 - Antibiotics (Basel, Switzerland): [Epidemiology, Temporal Trends and Resistance Patterns of ESBL-Producing Non-Typhoidal Salmonella Isolated from Blood Cultures in Kisantu, DRC \(2019–2022\)](#). Mbuyamba J, et al. 6 March 2026
 - Molecular Ecology: [Evidences That Host Genetic Background More Than the Environment Shapes the Microbiota of the Snail Bulinus truncatus, an Intermediate Host of Schistosoma Species](#). Jaquet M J, et al. 1 March 2026
 - BMJ Global Health: [Effectiveness of antenatal care delivery of intermittent preventive treatment in pregnancy with sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine in the context of an integrated strategy with seasonal malaria chemoprevention in Mali and Burkina Faso](#). Koita K, et al. 8 January 2026

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](#)
- WHO-TDR | [Global Health Matters podcast](#)

Training and funding opportunities

Infectious Disease Clinical Trial Award: Optimising interventions for impact

A new funding call is inviting randomised controlled trials aimed at optimising existing vaccines and therapeutics for infectious diseases. Priority areas include mycobacterial infections, bacterial infections, invasive fungal infections, dengue, leishmaniasis and schistosomiasis. The initiative is supported by the Wellcome Trust in partnership with the NIHR (National Institute for Health and Care Research) and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office – Research, Science and Technology. Application deadline: 2 June 2026.

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Mark your calendar

9th World Conference on Research Integrity | 3-6 May 2026

The 9th World Conference on Research Integrity will be held in Vancouver, Canada, from 3-6 May 2026. Open to all disciplines and career stages, the WCRI engages universities, research institutes, funders, publishers, and governments in lively discussions. The programme features a mix of research findings, reflections, and policy development. Abstract submissions are invited on all areas of research integrity, with a focus on Artificial Intelligence, Research Security, and Indigenous Knowledge Systems. The submission deadline is 15 October 2025.

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ESSENCE Annual Members meeting | 7-8 May 2026

The annual ESSENCE meeting of members is taking place on 7–8 May 2026 in Brussels, hosted by Global Health EDCTP3. The meeting will provide a platform to examine how funding strategies, research priorities and implementation efforts can be more effectively aligned to address emerging global health challenges while supporting country-led priorities. Dr Thomas Nyirenda, Strategic Partnerships & Capacity Development Manager and Head of Africa Office, and Ms Daniela Pereira, Communications Officer, will represent the EDCTP Association at the meeting.

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INTEREST Conference | 12-15 May 2026

The annual International Conference on HIV Treatment, Pathogenesis, and Prevention Research (INTEREST) is the premier scientific conference for HIV in Africa and brings together a global community of scientists dedicated to HIV treatment, pathogenesis, and prevention research. The conference will showcase cutting-edge knowledge in the diagnosis and treatment of HIV and the prevention of the HIV-1 infection. Additionally, the event serves as a platform for fostering collaboration among African physicians and scientists to facilitate the implementation of local solutions for the management of patients living with HIV-1 infection and for the prevention of HIV transmission. The conference will take place in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, from 12-15 May 2026. Ms Nuraan Fakier, Project Officer, will represent the EDCTP Association at the conference.

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18th World Congress of Bioethics (WCB) of the International Association of Bioethics | 8-10 July 2026

The Steve Biko Centre for Bioethics will host the 18th World Congress of Bioethics (WCB) from 8-10 July 2026 in Johannesburg, South Africa. This marks the first time the Congress is held in Africa, supported by leaders from various African countries through the Congress Africa Committee. The theme is “Comforting and Disturbing Bioethics,” and will include full and short oral presentations, posters, workshops, and panel sessions.

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5th International Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA) | 1-5 November 2026

The 5th International Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA 2026) will be held from 1–5 November 2026 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Co-hosted by the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) and the Government of Ethiopia, this conference will bring together political leaders, policymakers, researchers, innovators, civil society, and youth. Participants will work to define Africa's pathway to stronger, more resilient health systems and to reducing dependence on foreign aid.

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EDCTP Communications thanks everyone who provided information for this Update.



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