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



EDCTP

The Power of Sharing Science

EDCTP update

April 2017



Supported by the EU

World Malaria Day 2017

Malaria Awareness campaign

EDCTP participated in the Malaria Awareness campaign organised by MediaPlanet in partnership with Malaria No more UK and Roll Back Malaria for the past 5 years.

See the interview with Dr Michael Makanga '[Clinical trials essential in the fight against malaria](#)'

See also our World Malaria Day message: [Funding research and innovation to help end malaria.](#)



News

EDCTP - ANRS sponsored symposium at IAS2017

The [IAS 2017 conference](#) (the 9th IAS Conference on HIV Science in Paris, France on 23-26 July 2017) accepted a proposal from EDCTP and [ANRS](#) for a 'satellite symposium' on the topic of 'Coinfections causing high mortality in severely immunocompromised HIV patients'.

The symposium, sponsored by EDCTP and ANRS, will focus on co-infections causing mortality in HIV-infected individuals and aims to highlight some recent advances in the areas of HIV/TB and HIV/cryptococcal co-infections. It will showcase recent EDCTP- and ANRS-funded projects and present future funding opportunities in this area through EDCTP and ANRS.

EDCTP Quarterly Newsletter published

The EDCTP Quarterly Newsletter (Vol. 12,2 April 2017) is available in English ([PDF download at the EDCTP website](#)). The hard copy version will be sent to subscribers. [To subscribe](#), please go to the website.

Contents include:

- an overview of the planned calls for proposals in 2017 (pending approval by the European Commission and the EDCTP General Assembly);
- the first results of the new projects IMPACT and IMPP-ACT (studies aiming to support the translation of research into health

- policy and practice); and
- an initiative from European EDCTP member countries to investigate the possibilities of strengthening research cooperation within the scope of the EDCTP programme.



Newly signed grants

Call: Ethics and Regulatory Capacities 2015

- Renforcement de l'Éthique des Essais Cliniques en Afrique de l'Ouest [Strengthening research ethics of clinical trials in West Africa]. Coordinator: Prof. Ogobara Doumbo, Mali.

More via [Current Projects](#).

Recent publications

WHO



Integrating neglected tropical diseases in global health and development | Fourth WHO report on neglected tropical diseases.

See for French coverage also [Le Monde](#), [Mobilisation contre les maladies tropicales négligées](#)

Publications from EDCTP1 projects

CANTAM | Felix Koukouikila-Koussounda et alii: Molecular surveillance of Plasmodium falciparum drug resistance in the Republic of Congo: four and nine years after the introduction of artemisinin-based combination therapy, [Malaria Journal](#)

MONOD | Désiré Lucien Dahourou et alii: Efavirenz-based simplification after successful early lopinavir-boosted-ritonavir-based therapy in HIV-infected children in Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire: the [MONOD ANRS 12206](#) non-inferiority randomised trial, [BMC Medecine](#)

MONOD | Clarisse Amani-Bosse et alii: Virological response and resistances over 12 months among HIV-infected children less than two years receiving first-line lopinavir/ritonavir-based antiretroviral therapy in Cote d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso: the MONOD ANRS 12206 cohort. [JIAS](#)

IMPRESS | A. Naidoo et alii: Effect of rifampicin and efavirenz on moxifloxacin concentrations when co-administered in patients with drug-susceptible TB. [J Antimicrob Chemother](#) (With contribution from previous EDCTP1 Senior Fellow [Nesri Padayatchi](#), at CAPRISA)

Recent events

- AVAREF meetings** | From 20-24 February 2017, the technical and steering committees of the African Vaccine Regulatory Forum ([AVAREF](#)) met in Zanzibar together with experts from partner organisations. Dr Thomas Nyirenda (EDCTP South-South Networking and Capacity Development Manager) represented EDCTP, which has supported and worked with AVAREF since its start in 2006. Its mandate has been expanded to all medicines and diagnostics and its objectives aligned with the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonisation Initiative (AMRH). AVAREF is also active in

strengthening of national regulatory authorities and ethics review committees in the WHO Africa region. A number of AVAREF's member countries were also recipients of EDCTP capacity strengthening grants for ethics and/or regulatory functions.

- **WHO / diarrhoeal diseases** | A WHO Consultation on the burden of disease caused by Enterotoxigenic E. coli (ETEC) and Shigella bacteria took place in Geneva from 6-7 April 2017. Vaccines against these enteropathogens are in development. The meeting was attended by researchers, funders, product development partnerships and private companies. Its main objectives were the following:
 - Establish the priority public health goals for ETEC and Shigella vaccines, in LMIC settings, in particular the relative importance of a single ETEC or Shigella, or ETEC/Shigella combination vaccine. This will underpin the subsequent process for the development of the preferred product characteristics (PPCs).
 - Identify data gaps in disease burden estimates that may support assessment of vaccine cost-effectiveness, particularly in view of indirect morbidity effects.
 - Identify key elements for the ETEC/Shigella PPCs for future consideration.As the second EDCTP programme includes diarrhoeal diseases in its scope, Dr Michelle Helinski, EDCTP Project Officer, represented EDCTP at the meeting. The results of the consultation will inform future annual updates of the [EDCTP Strategic Research Agenda](#). See also the report on the [EDCTP Stakeholder meeting on diarrhoeal diseases](#).
- **Access to Medicine** | The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs held its [annual meeting with Product Development Partnerships under the theme 'Access to medicine'](#) in The Hague, The Netherlands, on 13 April 2017. EDCTP was represented by Dr Michael Makanga who participated in the discussion panel at the end of the meeting, Dr Gabrielle Breugelmans (North-North Networking Manager), Dr Magda Moutaftsi, Ms Lara Pandya (both North-North Networking Officers) and Dr Christie Comeaux (Project Officer). The panel, moderated by Jayasree Iyer of the [Access to Medicine Foundation](#), aimed to address the question how to effectively increase the productivity of PDPs. Other participants in the panel were: FIND (Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics), DNDi (Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative), Lygature, TB Alliance, and MMV (Medicines for Malaria Venture). The panelists discussed organisational development (e.g. from bilateral to multilateral organisations) and confirmed that for most PDPs getting multiple pharmaceutical companies to work together in order to effectively combine various medicines in a single medical regime remains an important challenge. The participation of many of EDCTP's partners and the Dutch Life Sciences & Health sector provided ample opportunity for networking.

Recent tweets

- **Inquiry on HIV response** | The UK All-Party Parliamentary Group on HIV and AIDS launched a Call for evidence. It requests [feedback for its inquiry on the HIV response for key populations](#), and women and girls in middle-income and transitioning countries. A number of civil society organisations expressed concern that these groups, already disproportionately affected by HIV, are facing greater challenges as countries transition into new economic brackets. In many countries, these economic categories do not necessarily reflect public health realities on the ground.

Kindly submit your response in Word format by email to tom.addison@parliament.uk before 25 May 2017.
- **Bio Ventures for Global Health (BVGH) at Bio International 2017** | For the third year in a row, [BVGH will organise the Africa Pavilion](#) at the [2017 Bio international convention](#). (Report on the 2016 Pavilion [here](#).)
- **Call for proposals** | MRC UK, DFID, and NIHR [Call for research to improve adolescent health in LMIC settings](#). Research Grants are focused projects of usually up to 3 years' duration with a maximum of 5 years. Small and larger-scale projects are invited. With a Call budget of approximately £10m, funding of 15 projects of varying size is envisaged. Applications will be accepted from Principal Investigators based at organisations either in the UK or in low, lower-middle and upper-middle income countries.
- **Call for proposals to bring together medical and cultural expertise** | From the announcement: "The Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) offers a unique opportunity for the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the Medical Research Council (MRC) [to launch a global public health initiative](#) that responds to

the challenge of bringing together expertise in medical science and health interventions in developing countries, with an understanding of local knowledge and history, cultural dynamics, community engagement, and trust." Deadline 8 June 2017.

- **Malaria Vaccine introduction** | Kenya, Ghana and Malawi get the first malaria vaccine. [BBC news item](#) and WHO AFRO message: [Ghana, Kenya and Malawi to take part in WHO malaria vaccine pilot programme](#)
- **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** | [Press release on Intention to create a non-profit medical research institute](#) expected to be located in Seattle and Boston. The institute will focus on "diseases that disproportionately impact the poor in low- and middle-income countries by accelerating progress in translational science - the process that translates promising scientific discoveries into potential medical products."

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