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



**E D C T P**

*The Power of Sharing Science*

## **EDCTP update** March 2017



Supported by the EU

### News

#### San code of research ethics presented at Trust meeting

The South African San Institute together with the South African San Council launched the first **San code of research ethics** to avoid future exploitation within research of the San community. The launch took place on 2 March 2017 in Cape Town, South Africa, during the TRUST meeting. TRUST is a global ethics consortium funded from the Horizon 2020 in which EDCTP participates.



The TRUST global ethics consortium held a plenary meeting for its members in Kalk Bay, Cape Town, South Africa from 28 February to 2 March 2017. Along with all TRUST partners, three TRUST advisors (Professor Olga Kubar, Paul Woodgate and Professor David Morton) participated. EDCTP was represented by Dr Michelle Singh.



The two-day plenary included interactive sessions on topics of fair research collaborations, partnerships and contracts as well as benefit sharing in practice.

[More on the Trust website](#) - project information, news coverage, and the [San Code](#).

## TB clinical studies: launch of PanACEA2 and Predict-TB



PanACEA2 meeting

Two new clinical studies had their kick-off meeting in Cape Town, South Africa, in March 2017. EDCTP Senior Project Officer, Dr Monique Rijks-Surette participated in both meetings.

On 7-8 March, the **PanACEA** consortium launched its second clinical trials programme for TB-drug evaluation. The project, led by Professor Martin Boeree (Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands) aims to develop at least two promising TB-treatment regimens with

sound prediction data for a successful phase III evaluation, and advance one new agent into a phase IIB trial. EDCTP will invest almost €11.4 million. [Read more](#)

**Predict-TB**, led by Professor Gerhard Walzl of Stellenbosch University, had its launch meeting on 16-17 March. EDCTP will invest €7.7 million in the project that investigates biomarkers in order to predict TB treatment outcome, which are ultimately to be used in a point-of-care test. Such a test could help shortening TB treatment for many patients. [Read more](#)

### World TB Day

Our World TB Day message focussed on closing the research gaps. Dr Michael Makanga, EDCTP Executive Director, stated: "*Combating all forms of TB and its interaction with other poverty-related and neglected diseases, through R&D on new or improved tools for better diagnosis, prevention, treatment and point-of-care evaluation of these interventions remains a major priority for EDCTP.*" [Read more](#)



Predict-TB meeting

## Newly signed grants

### Call: Ethics and regulatory capacities

East Africa pharmacovigilance initiative University of Nairobi, Kenya. [More information](#)

### Call: 2015 Career Development Fellowships

Cluster randomised community-based trial of annual versus biannual single-dose ivermectin plus albendazole against *Wuchereria bancrofti* infection in human and mosquito populations  
Dr De Souza / Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR), Accra, Ghana

## [More information](#)

### Call: 2015 Senior Fellowships

- Novel biomarkers predictive of susceptibility and treatment response in patients with MDR-TB | Prof. Keertan Dheda / University of Cape Town, South Africa
- Malaria research and capacity building for field trials in Tanzania | Dr John Lusingu / National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR), Tanzania
- Harnessing parasite diversity and naturally acquired protective immunity against *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria for the development of highly effective vaccines | Prof. Faith Osier / Kenya Medical Research Institute, Kenya
- What is the feasibility, accuracy, and optimal manner in which next-generation tests for tuberculosis can be used in high-burden settings? | Prof. Grant Theron / Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa

## [More information](#)

### Call: Improved treatment and clinical management of poverty-related diseases

Prof. Martin Boeree: PanACEA, a drug development programme to shorten and simplify treatment of tuberculosis

Stichting Katholieke Universiteit [Foundation Catholic University] (RUNMC), Netherlands

## [More information](#)

## Recent publications

### EDCTP



[Summary of UK-APPG meeting on EDCTP as a global health partnership](#)  
February 2017

### WHO



WHO - A [framework for malaria elimination](#)

### Journals

First results from two projects funded under the EDCTP2 2014 call for proposals: *Maximising the impact of EDCTP research: translation of research results into policy and practice*

**IMPP-ACT:** E.M. Hodel et alii: Stability of Dihydroartemisinin-Piperaquine Tablet Halves During Prolonged Storage Under Tropical Conditions, [AJTMH](#)

**IMPACT:** P.G.T. Walker et alii: Estimated impact on birth weight of scaling up intermittent preventive treatment of malaria in pregnancy given sulphadoxine-pyrimethamine resistance in Africa: A mathematical model, [PLOS Medicine](#)

## Recent events

- **WHO | Tuberculosis:** Consensus meeting on Target Product Profile (TPP) and Framework for Evaluation for a test of progression to active tuberculosis (Geneva, Switzerland, 8 February 2017). EDCTP Operations Manager Dr Pauline Beattie participated in the meeting.
- **EDCTP: Financial and project management training,** Johannesburg, South Africa, 7-8 March 2017. Abdoelie Barry, EDCTP Director of Finance and Administration, and Dr Ole Olesen, Director of North-North Cooperation conducted this ninth training.
- **Norway:** The [annual GLOBVAC conference](#), the 10th international conference on global health and vaccination research, took place in Trondheim, Norway on 14-15 March. The conference presented Norwegian and international research on global health in light of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Dr Ole Olesen talked in plenary about 'Strategic partnerships to enable clinical trials and capacity building in sub-Saharan Africa'.
- **Neglected tropical diseases:** On 27-29 March 2017, Aviesan (the French National Alliance for Life Sciences and Health) organised a meeting of the **'Francophone**

**Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases'**, which aims for more coordination amongst French research institutes in the fight against neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). EDCTP Project Officer Jean Marie Vianney Habarugira participated, co-chairing some sessions and exploring the role EDCTP could play in improving access to NTD diagnostics.

- **EDCTP:** Spring meeting of the EDCTP **Scientific Advisory Committee** on 30-31 March. Dr. Kate Hankins is the new Chair; Prof. Clara Menéndez Santos and Prof. John Gyapong are the new vice-chairs.



EDCTP Scientific Advisory Committee on 31 March 2017  
Photo via [@MamaDaktari](#) (Marleen Temmerman)

## Recent tweets

- **USA:** [BIO Ventures for Global Health](#) expands its board to strengthen its nonprofit global health expertise (Prof. Stefan Kaufmann and Prof. Groesbeck Parham)
- **European Commission:** R&D for poverty-related infectious diseases needs your contribution to the [EC consultation on PPPs](#)! Deadline 30/04/17
- **Italy:** Prof. Stefano Vella (vice-Chair of the EDCTP General Assembly) appointed President of the Italian Medicine Agency [28 March Sanità 24](#) (in Italian)
- **Opinion:** E.M. Speakman et alii, If not now, when? Time for the European Union to define a global health strategy [The Lancet](#)
- **EDCTP-funded project:** Diagnostics study [Di-TECT HAT](#) (sleeping sickness) made the evening news in Guinea on 23 March with training in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea.



- **Opinion:** TB Alliance On World TB Day [TB Alliance](#): "Join us in calling on @WHO to add #TB to list of bacteria in critical need of antibiotics"
- **Gender:** International Women's Day @GatesAfrica: New blog post guest written by @EvelynGitau on the [gender gap in African Science](#).

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