

AMBITION News

The Ambition-cm Trial Newsletter (Issue 14: November 2018)

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@ambitioncm2020

Please do encourage
colleagues to 'follow' us!



The team in Zimbabwe discussing trial procedures during the Harare site monitoring visit (1-5 October 2018).



AMBITION-cm

AMBIsome Therapy Induction Optimization

Greetings from Gaborone!



We would like to extend our thanks to our colleagues across all sites who have been working incredibly hard this past month on AMBITION. October has been a busy yet productive month with our patient recruitment rate reflecting the continued hard work of the whole team.

Since our last Newsletter, we are delighted to share the news that we celebrated the recruitment of our milestone **50th patient** on **Friday 19th October** at **IDI Uganda (Kampala)**.

Prof. Rati Ndhlovu and the Harare team recently had their first site monitoring visit from **1-5 October**, which went very well: a testament to the dedicated and detailed work of the whole team in Zimbabwe.

Grants teams in **Harare, Lilongwe and Blantyre** received our Financial & Administrative Project Manager Philippa during **9 - 25 October** for the first round of annual **financial support site visits**.

Several changes have also taken effect on our **AMBITION website**—please do check them out! More details on Page 6.

The **AMBITION Medical Mycology Course**, which will take place in **Cape Town** from **10-14 December**, is also fast approaching. More details on Page 6.

As we near the end of the 2018, we look forward to recruiting our first patients in Lilongwe and Blantyre very shortly!

Best Wishes,

Joe

Recruitment Update (as of 9 November 2018)

We are happy to share updates on patient recruitment numbers at each site:

**Botswana-Harvard Partnership
(Gaborone)**



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The latest patient was recruited on **16 November 2018**

**University of Cape Town
(Cape Town)**



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The latest patient was recruited on **13 November 2018**

**University of Zimbabwe
(Harare)**



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The latest patient was recruited on **14 November 2018**

**UNC Project Malawi
(Lilongwe)**



We look forward to enrolling the first patient very soon!

**Malawi-Liverpool Wellcome Trust
Clinical Research Programme
(Blantyre)**



We look forward to enrolling the first patient very soon!

**IDI Uganda – Kampala
IDI Uganda – Mbarara**



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The latest patient was recruited in Kampala on **19 November 2018**

Milestone 50th Patient!



We are delighted to share the news that we recruited our **50th trial patient** on **Friday 19th October!** Patient number 50 was recruited at **IDI Uganda (Kampala)**.

Many thanks to the excellent teams at the recruiting sites for their continued hard work. We look forward to recruitment increasing steadily until all sites are on board at the end of 2018!

Financial Support Visits

Grants teams at the University of Zimbabwe, UNC Project Malawi and at MLW received AMBITION's Financial & Administrative Project Manager, Philippa, for financial support visits during October:

- **University of Zimbabwe College of Health Sciences (UZCHS)** in **Harare** from **9 - 12 October**
- **UNC Project** offices in **Lilongwe** from **16 - 19 October**
- **MLW** offices in **Blantyre** from **22 - 25 October**



Philippa is grateful to the Grants Office teams at all three organisations who set aside time and space to receive her and who worked with her to review timesheets and expenditure, and to ensure compliance with EDCTP and Horizon 2020 regulations. She now looks forward to visiting the Botswana-Harvard Partnership in November, the University of Cape Town in December and IDI Uganda in January.

Harare Site Monitoring Visit



Prof. Rati Ndhlovu and the AMBITION team at the University of Zimbabwe hosted Dr. Nabila Youssouf and Dr. Timothée Boyer-Chammard from 1-5 October for the first trial monitoring visit.

Visits took place to both the Department of Medicine at UZCHS and to Parirenyatwa Hospital.

Prof. Rati and the whole team worked with Nabila and Timothée to continue some administrative tasks (e.g. filing of patient records, hospital notes and study folders), to complete paperwork and procedures during a particularly busy period of patient recruitment, and to ensure that the various trial procedures were performed as per the protocol.

Thank you to the team for their efforts to establish such effective communication systems as recruitment continues, and for making Nabila and Timothée so welcome during their visit. They are already looking forward to returning to Harare in 2019!



Prof. Rati Ndhlovu
happily signing
timesheets!

Thumbs up from Nabila
and Timothée after a
successful visit!



Uganda Site Monitoring Visit



Above: Sister Jane Frances and Sister Florence preparing AMBITION study drugs at Kiruddu General Hospital, Kampala **(below)**



Dr. David Meya and the whole AMBITION team at IDI Uganda hosted Dr. Nabila Youssouf and Dr. David Lawrence from 5-9 November for the first trial monitoring visit.

The visit allowed everyone to get better acquainted following the SIV in August, and allowed the IDI team to demonstrate the excellent work that they have been doing on all aspects of the trial so far (patient screening and enrolment, use of the AMBITION EDC, management of drugs, and protocol compliance). Further discussions also took place around potential sub-studies that may be undertaken at IDI as part of Work Package 3.

Thank you to everyone at IDI for welcoming Nabila and David for the whole week and for their hard work on AMBITION to date.

All Approvals obtained in Malawi

Congratulations to our teams in **Blantyre** and **Lilongwe** who have worked hard to obtain the final approval from the Malawian Pharmacy, Medicines and Poisons Board (PMPB). The teams will be able to recruit their first patients very shortly once all the necessary study drugs and clinical consumables have arrived at the sites.



AMBITION Website

The **AMBITION website** now contains the full suite of **updated Clinical, Laboratory and Trial Management WPDs**, which can be used to guide teams as they enrol and care for patients, and as they perform laboratory activities. Separate sub-pages are allocated to each set of WPDs. They can be accessed under “**Work Packages — > Work Package 1: Clinical Trial**”. You can also check them out here, by clicking the links below:



Clinical WPDs



Laboratory WPDs



Trial Management WPDs

Dr. David Lawrence's YouTube channel is also now up and running. In 15 short videos David explains how **to use the AMBITION Electronic Data Capture Tool (EDC)**. A link to the channel is available on the website, and can also be accessed **here**.

The website is updated regularly with news, events, photos and staff profiles, so we would like to encourage our colleagues to make good use of it during the months to come!

AMBITION Medical Mycology Course—Cape Town (10-14 December 2018)



We very much look forward to the ‘**Lecture and Practical Course in Medical Mycology**’, which will take place in **Cape Town** from **10-14 December 2018**. We will welcome **12 delegates** from the **AMBITION consortium**, **4 delegates** from the **EDCTP-funded DREAMM study**, **16 delegates** from elsewhere in **Africa**, and **18 teaching staff**.

We will circulate a communication at the end of November containing full logistical details of travel, accommodation and airport transfers. This will be accompanied by a brochure to introduce all staff and delegates and to provide details of the course content.

We will keep you updated on all things Mycology-related in the next month!