

AMBITION News

The AMBITION-cm Trial Newsletter
(Issue 17: March 2019)



AMBITION-cm

AMBIsome Therapy Induction Optimization

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@ambitioncm2020

twitter

Please do encourage
colleagues to 'follow' us!

200
Participants
Recruited

We have officially recruited 200 participants as of Tuesday 26 March 2019! Congratulations to the entire AMBITION team for this wonderful achievement.

Greetings from Gaborone!



Many thanks to colleagues across all sites who have dedicated a great deal of time and effort to AMBITION during the month of March. Our continually climbing participant recruitment numbers are a testament to all this hard work.

Since our last Newsletter, we are delighted to share that we recruited our **200th trial participant** at **IDI Uganda (Mbarara)** on **Tuesday 26 March 2019!** Further details on **Page 3**.

We also have a new addition to the AMBITION team. **Dr. Kyla Comins** joins us as the new **Study Doctor** at the **UCT site** on 1 March 2019. Learn a little more about Dr. Comins on **Page 3**.

Applications for the **MSc Studentships at LSHTM (September 2019 entry)** closed on **Thursday 28 February**. The TMG reviewed applications and the successful candidates have now been contacted. Find out who they are on **Page 4**.

We officially submitted our **annual financial and technical report** to the **EDCTP** for the period **January to December 2018** on **Friday 1 March 2019**. Read more on **Page 4**.

We continue to plan for the upcoming third **Investigators' Meeting** which is to be held at **Institut Pasteur in Paris** from **28-29 May 2019**. Head over to **Page 5** for an update.

There are a number of exciting events due to take place later this year; the **AMNET Meeting (Tuesday 9 July 2019)** and **AIDS-related Mycoses Workshop (10-12 July 2019)** being just two of them. Further details on these events can be found on **Page 6**.

We are thrilled with our recruitment progress to date and we look forward to achieving our 25% enrolment target imminently!

Best Wishes,

Joe

Recruitment Update (as of 3 April 2019):

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

**Botswana-Harvard Partnership
(Gaborone)**



3 3

The latest participant was recruited on **25 March 2019**

University of Cape Town



1 3

The latest participant was recruited on **27 March 2019**

**University of Zimbabwe
(Harare)**



3 2

The latest participant was recruited on **3 April 2019**

**UNC Project Malawi
(Lilongwe)**



2 2

The latest participant in Lilongwe was recruited on **15 March 2019**

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



2 9

The latest participant in Blantyre was recruited on **25 March 2019**

IDI Uganda (Kampala)



6 4

The latest participant in Kampala was recruited on **1 April 2019**

IDI Uganda (Mbarara)

1 4

The latest participant in Mbarara was recruited on **1 April 2019**

Milestone 200th Participant Recruited



We are thrilled to report that we recruited our **200th trial participant** on **Tuesday 26 March 2019!**

Well done to the team at **IDI Uganda** in **Mbarara** for doing the honours.

We eagerly look forward to achieving our 25% recruitment target very soon!

Introducing more AMBITION Colleagues

We are happy to introduce a new member of our AMBITION team from **UCT** below:

New Starter — Dr. Kyla Comins, Study Doctor (UCT)



I initially started out working in a secondary hospital, where I eventually transitioned to the intensive care unit. It was in 2014 when I began working in a primary care clinic in Cape Town, exclusively treating patients suffering from HIV and other opportunistic infections. It was also during this time that I completed my Diploma in HIV Management.

Prior to joining AMBITION-cm, I had been involved in clinical trials for four years, with a specific focus on drug-resistant tuberculosis.

I am particularly interested in integrating clinical trials into public health systems to provide the best possible all-round care for patients participating in clinical research, as well as a way to improve research uptake by patients and clinicians alike.

I am currently pursuing a distance-learning MSc in Infectious Diseases from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM).

MSc Studentships at LSHTM (2019/2020)



We will once again be offering **fully funded MSc Studentships** at the **London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)** from **September 2019-September 2020**.

The opportunity was made available to eligible candidates from the six **African beneficiaries** in the AMBITION consortium. The application deadline was on 28 February 2019 and we were pleased to have received a number of excellent applications.

The **AMBITION Trial Management Group** carefully reviewed all applications and we are happy to announce that two candidates were selected to apply formally to LSHTM. Congratulations to **Dr. Admire Hlupeni** (Study Doctor, **UoZ**) and **Janet Zambezi** (Laboratory Technician, **UNC Project Malawi**) on your successful applications!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who submitted an application for consideration this year.



Period 2 Report Submitted



We officially submitted our **annual financial report** to the **EDCTP** for the period **January—December 2018** on **Friday 1 March 2019**.

Congratulations and a huge thank you to everyone who worked on the report, in particular to those colleagues in the Grants Offices, whose efforts were much appreciated!



**3rd Investigators' Meeting:
28-29 May 2019**



Hotel Eiffel Blomet



Institut Pasteur Museum

We are grateful to **Prof. Françoise Dromer**, **Prof. Olivier Lortholary** and the rest of the AMBITION team at **Institut Pasteur** for agreeing to host the third AMBITION Investigators' Meeting from **28-29 May 2019**.

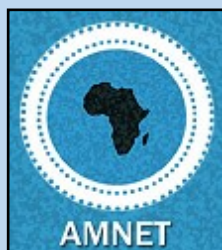
Preparations are well underway to welcome PIs, study doctors and other investigators from across the consortium to Paris in two months' time.

Accommodation has now been booked at **Hotel Eiffel Blomet** in central Paris, which is conveniently only a short walk away from Institut Pasteur!

We are particularly looking forward to a tour of the **Institut Pasteur Museum**, kindly organised by our colleagues in Paris.

We will circulate a communication in early May containing full logistical details including travel and transfer information. This will be accompanied by the meeting agenda.

Upcoming Events of Interest



AMNET Meeting—Tuesday 9 July

The **2019 African Meningitis Trials Network (AMNET) Meeting** will be taking place at the **Institute of Infectious Disease & Molecular Medicine (IDM)** in Cape Town, South Africa on **Tuesday 9 July 2019**.

Further details, including the agenda for the day, will be made available on the AMBITION website soon. Follow the link below to keep updated:

<http://blogs.lshtm.ac.uk/amnet/>

AIDS-related Mycoses Workshop—10-12 July 2019



The **3rd AIDS-related Mycoses meeting** is to be held at the **Institute of Infectious Disease & Molecular Medicine (IDM)** in Cape Town, South Africa from **10-12 July 2019**.

The 2019 meeting intends to highlight the continuing problem of advanced HIV and the contribution of mycoses to deaths from AIDS. Discussions will centre around the range of the disease, the latest advances and the current challenges facing this field.

The programme will also include workshops on public health, novel prevention and treatment strategies, basic science of host-pathogen interactions, immunology, anti-fungal resistance and genomics.

Further details on the workshop, including how to register, can be found on the following website:

<https://www.aidsmycoses2019.co.za/index.html>