

AMBITION News

The AMBITION-cm Trial Newsletter
(Issue 19: June 2019)



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@ambitioncm2020

Please do encourage
colleagues to 'follow' us!



A wonderful group picture of all attendees of the third annual AMBITION Investigators' Meeting, on the steps of Institut Pasteur in Paris (28-29 May 2019).

Greetings from Gaborone!



It has been a particularly busy couple of months for AMBITION. Our colleagues across all sites continue to dedicate a great deal of time and effort to the project, with our ever climbing recruitment number being a reflection of this wonderful work ethic.

Since our last Newsletter, we are delighted to share that we recruited our **300th trial participant at IDI Uganda (Kampala) on Monday 1 July 2019!** Further details on **Page 3**.

The IDI team hosted **Dr. Nabila Youssouf** and **Dr. David Lawrence** in mid-May for a scheduled monitoring visit at the **Kampala (14-17 May)** and **Mbarara (20-22 May)** recruiting sites. Head over to **Page 3** for further details of the visits.

There are also a number of **monitoring visits** due to take place in the coming months. TMG members will be visiting the recruiting sites in **Cape Town, Lilongwe, Blantyre and Harare** in **July and August**. Further information on the dates of each of these visits can be found on **Page 4**.

The **third Investigators' Meeting**, which was held at **Institut Pasteur** in **Paris** from **28-29 May 2019**, was a great success. Head over to **Pages 5 and 6** to learn more about some of the interesting Meeting discussions that took place, as well as some lovely shots captured by our resident Meeting photographer; Dr. Timothée Boyer-Chamard!

We are excited for **Dr. Admire Hlupeni (Study Doctor, UoZ)** and **Janet Zambezi (Lab Technician, UNC Project Malawi)**, who have formally been accepted onto **MSc programmes in Epidemiology and Immunology of Infectious Diseases** respectively, at **LSHTM**. Flit over to **Page 7** for further details.

There is a lot to look forward to in the coming months, but as always, we will keep you updated on all things AMBITION related!

Best Wishes,

Joe

Recruitment Update (as of 3 July 2019):

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

**Botswana-Harvard Partnership
(Gaborone)**



0 3 7

The latest participant was recruited on **10 June 2019**

University of Cape Town



0 1 8

The latest participant was recruited on **23 May 2019**

**University of Zimbabwe
(Harare)**



0 4 6

The latest participant was recruited on **17 June 2019**

**UNC Project Malawi
(Lilongwe)**



0 3 6

The latest participant in Lilongwe was recruited on **19 June 2019**

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



0 4 2

The latest participant in Blantyre was recruited on **24 June 2019**

IDI Uganda (Kampala)



1 0 0

The latest participant in Kampala was recruited on **2 July 2019**

IDI Uganda (Mbarara)

0 2 2

The latest participant in Mbarara was recruited on **17 June 2019**

300th Participant Recruited!



We are thrilled to report that we recruited our **300th trial participant** on **Monday 1 July 2019!**

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

We have now surpassed our **35% enrolment target** and are well on our way to reaching the 40th percentile mark!

Monitoring Visit in Kampala: 14-17 May 2019



Dr. David Meya and fellow AMBITION team members at **IDI (Kampala)** hosted **Dr. Nabila Youssouf**, **Dr. David Lawrence** in mid-May for a scheduled monitoring visit at the **Kampala (14-17 May)** recruiting site.

All colleagues worked closely together to review various trial-related documentation, including the recently updated weekly site report, which has greatly improved communication of important updates.

It also provided a great opportunity for the team to welcome additional support as they continue to work tirelessly during a particularly busy recruitment period.

All in all, the monitoring visit proved to be a success with notable recognition given to the IDI (Kampala) team for their high quality of EDC data entry!

Monitoring Visit in Mbarara: 20-22 May 2019



The **IDI (Mbarara)** team welcomed **Dr. Nabila Youssouf** and **Dr. David Lawrence** for a monitoring visit at the **Mbarara** recruiting site from **20-22 May**.

Dr. Conrad Muzoora, along with fellow **IDI (Mbarara)** colleagues worked closely with Nabila and David to tackle a number of administrative tasks, recap trial procedures and review various aspects of EDC entry.

Thanks so much to **Dr. Conrad Muzoora** and the **IDI (Mbarara)** team for being so accommodating during the visit and for your continued hard work on AMBITION!

Upcoming Monitoring Visits

Monitoring Visit in Cape Town: 8-10 July 2019



Monitoring season is upon us! **Dr. Nabila Youssouf** and **Dr. David Lawrence** will be visiting the Cape Town recruiting site from **8-10 July**, along with **Prof. Tom Harrison** and **Dr. Síle Molloy**. It will certainly be a great opportunity for all colleagues to work together to recap various trial procedures in preparation for the opening of the new recruitment site at Khayelitsha District Hospital. The visit will also coincide with the **AMNET Meeting** that is due to take place on **Tuesday 9 July**.

Monitoring Visit in Lilongwe: 14-17 July 2019



Dr. Cecilia Kanyama and the team at **UNC Project Malawi** in **Lilongwe**, will once again be hosting **Dr. Nabila Youssouf**, **Dr. David Lawrence** and **Dr. Timothée Boyer-Chammard** for a monitoring visit from **14-17 July**.

Monitoring Visit in Blantyre: 16-20 July 2019



Prof. Henry Mwandumba and the rest of the AMBITION team at **MLW** will welcome **Dr. Nabila Youssouf** and **Dr. David Lawrence** from **16-20 July** for the **second monitoring visit** at the recruiting site in **Blantyre**.

Monitoring Visit in Harare: 5-9 August 2019



Prof. Rati Ndhlovu and our fellow AMBITION colleagues at **UoZ** will kindly host **Dr. Nabila Youssouf** and **Dr. Timothee Boyer-Chammard** from **5-9 August** for the final monitoring visit of the current season.



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



A lovely group picture taken whilst on a tour of Musée Pasteur on Wednesday 29th May

AMBITION PIs, Study Doctors and other Investigators from across the consortium convened in Paris last month for the **third annual AMBITION Investigators' Meeting (28-29 May)**. Institut Pasteur graciously hosted the AMBITION team during the two day event.

It was an excellent opportunity for our fellow AMBITION colleagues at all six recruiting sites to present site updates and share notable achievements from the past year. It also provided a platform for any issues/challenges to be discussed and worked through in a group format.

Mr. Erik van Widenfelt presented an engaging session on all things database related, with an informative PowerPoint on the mechanism behind the running of the EDC. Further presentations on **statistical aspects**, as well as additional updates on **the lab-based sub-studies, Health Economics, AMNET, and financial project management** were also given.

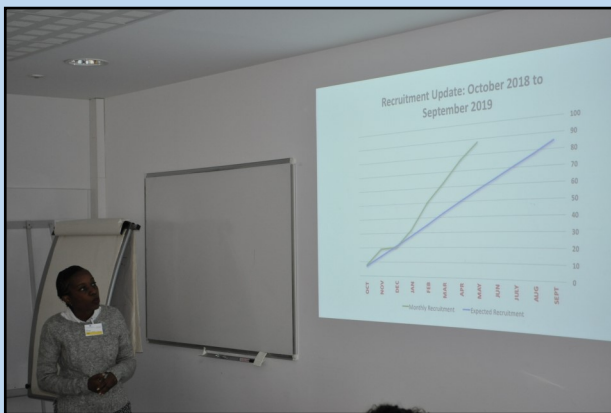
Our **EDCTP Project Officer, Johanna Roth**, was also in attendance and shared a presentation on the EDCTP budget, as well as kindly answering a few questions from the team.

The meeting provided a wonderful opportunity for the AMBITION team to network and update others on all the commendable work that has taken place over the last 12 months. The team were also treated to a tour of **Musée Pasteur on Wednesday 29th May**; an interesting visit that was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone—even by those who we almost left behind in the crypt!

All in all, the Meeting proved a great success (as can be gathered from the great pictures overleaf), and we would like to extend our gratitude to **Prof. Françoise Dromer, Prof. Olivier Lortholary, Reine Bouyssie** and the rest of the AMBITION team at **Institut Pasteur** for the warm reception!



3rd Investigators' Meeting: 28-29 May 2019

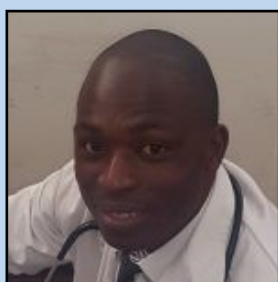




3rd Investigators' Meeting: 28-29 May 2019

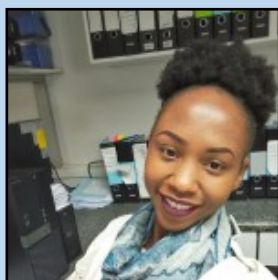


MSc Studentships at LSHTM (2019/2020)



As per our last newsletter, **two fully funded MSc Studentships** at the **London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)** from **September 2019-September 2020** were awarded to two of our AMBITION colleagues.

We are now delighted to share the news that both **Dr. Admire Hlupeni (Study Doctor, UoZ)** and **Janet Zambezi (Lab Technician, UNC Project Malawi)** have been formally accepted onto their respective Masters' courses at LSHTM for the upcoming 2019/20 academic year.



Admire will be undertaking an **MSc in Epidemiology** and Janet will be reading for an **MSc in Immunology of Infectious Diseases**.

Both are currently preparing for their upcoming move and we are excited to welcome them at LSHTM in September 2019!

Upcoming Events of Interest

- **AMNET Meeting—Tuesday 9 July** (<http://blogs.lshtm.ac.uk/amnet/>)
- **AIDS-related Mycoses Workshop—10-12 July 2019** (<https://www.aidsmycoses2019.co.za/index.html>)
- **International AIDS Society Men & HIV Forum—20 July 2019** (<https://www.iasociety.org/HIV-Programmes/Programmes/Differentiated-Service-Delivery/Events/Men-HIV>)
- **10th International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Science—21-24 July 2019** (<http://www.ias2019.org/>)