

# AMBITION News

The AMBITION-cm Trial Newsletter  
(Issue 26: January 2020)



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Nabila and David (LSHTM, Gaborone)

Philippa (LSHTM, London)

Timothée (Institut Pasteur, Paris)



@ambitioncm2020

Please do encourage colleagues  
to 'follow' us!



Laura Nsangi (Study Coordinator), Andrew Akampurira (Medical Laboratory Technologist) Tonny Luggya, and Dr. David Lawrence performing a sample spot check on 22 January: during a monitoring visit of the Kampala recruiting site (21-24 January).

## Greetings from Gaborone!



Happy New Year! Welcome back everyone—we hope you had a pleasant and restful festive break! We have certainly hit the ground running in the new decade. We continue to make good progress with participant recruitment, having randomized 34 participants in the past month. As always, we thank all colleagues across all recruiting sites for their hard work.

The teams in **Kampala and Mbarara** received Nabila and David for the **first monitoring visit of the New Year** from **20-29 January 2020**. Head to **Page 3** for further details, and to feast your eyes on some pictures from the week's events!

Plenty of monitoring visits to look forward to in 2020! Nabila and David will be visiting **MLW** colleagues at the **Blantyre** recruiting site from **3-7 March 2020**: and the team at **UNC Project in Lilongwe** will be receiving Nabila and Timothée shortly thereafter, for a scheduled visit from **16-20 March**. **Page 4** has all the details.

**Dr. Kenneth Ssebambulidde (Study Doctor, IDI Uganda)**, will soon be heading back to London to attend the graduation ceremony to receive his **MSc Immunology of Infectious Diseases (2018/2019)** diploma. Head over to **Page 5** for more details and for a little update from Kenneth himself!

New year, new faces! Please head over to **Page 5** to welcome **Henriette Kyepa**, the **Research Pharmacist** who joined the **AMBITION UCT team** in late 2019. We will surely be introducing a few more colleagues in the coming months, so keep an eye out for that!

Best Wishes,

Joe

### Recruitment Update (as of 31 January 2020):

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

**Botswana-Harvard Partnership**  
(Gaborone)



0 6 0

The latest participant was recruited on **30 January 2020**

**University of Cape Town:**  
**Mitchells Plain Hospital and**  
**Khayelitsha Hospital**



0 5 3

The latest participant was recruited on **24 January 2020**

**University of Zimbabwe**  
(Harare)



0 5 9

The latest participant was recruited on **4 October 2019**

**UNC Project Malawi**  
(Lilongwe)



0 6 2

The latest participant in Lilongwe was recruited on **28 January 2020**

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



0 7 8

The latest participant in Blantyre was recruited on **24 January 2020**

**IDI Uganda (Kampala)**



1 7 9

The latest participant in Kampala was recruited on **28 January 2020**

**IDI Uganda (Mbarara)**

0 5 3

The latest participant in Mbarara was recruited on **29 January 2020**

**TOTAL: 544 (64%)**

## Uganda Monitoring Visit (20-29 January 2020)



Dr. David Meya, Dr. Conrad Muzoora and fellow AMBITION team members at IDI Uganda (Kampala and Mbarara recruiting sites) hosted Dr. Nabila Youssouf and Dr. David Lawrence from 20-29 January 2020, marking the first monitoring visit of the **New Year 2020**. First up was a trip to visit colleagues at the recruiting site in **Kampala** from **21-24 January**, then the team in **Mbarara** received David and Nabila from **27-29 January**.

The visit provided an excellent opportunity to review participant files following the Christmas period, and to work together to address any outstanding administrative and clinical queries. As usual, routine lab and pharmacy checks took place, demonstrating excellent record-keeping in both Kampala and Mbarara. All in all, the first monitoring visit of 2020 was a success!

Please enjoy a few pictures of the action-packed week below, and be sure to visit the AMBITION website to check out some more!

### Kampala (21-24 January)



Above: Laura, Andrew, Tonny and Davis performing a sample spot check at IDI Kampala

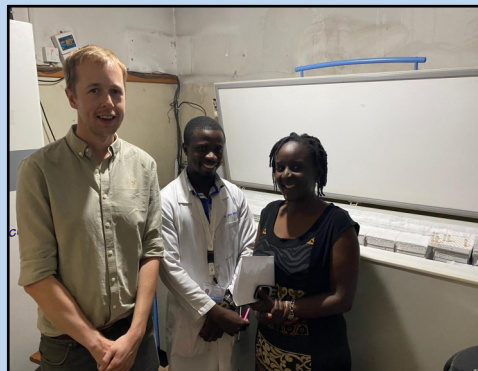
Left: Andrew placing AMBITION samples into storage in the IDI lab on 22 January



Tonny Luggya in the IDI Kampala lab on 22 January

### Mbarara (27-29 January)

David, Samuel Jjunju (Study Doctor), and Irene Rwomushana conducting a sample spot check in the Mbarara Pharmacy fridge on 27 January



Irene Rwomushana and Davis arranging the Fungizone stock in the Mbarara Pharmacy fridge on 27 January



### Upcoming Monitoring Visits 2020

#### Monitoring Visit in Blantyre: 3-7 March 2020

**Prof. Henry Mwandumba** and the rest of the AMBITION team at **MLW** will welcome **Dr. Nabila Youssouf** and **Dr. David Lawrence** from **3-7 March 2020** for a monitoring visit of the recruitment site in **Blantyre**.

It will be a great opportunity for Nabila and David to work closely with MLW colleagues to review various study documentation, as well as provide support with the EDC while routine updates continue to be made.



#### Monitoring Visit in Lilongwe: 16-20 March 2020

**Dr. Cecilia Kanyama** and the team at **UNC Project Malawi** in **Lilongwe** will be hosting **Dr. Nabila Youssouf** and **Dr. Timothée Boyer-Chamard** for a monitoring visit from **16-20 March 2020**.

It will allow everyone the time to recap trial and laboratory procedures and work through a number of administrative tasks. Nabila and Timothée also look forward to meeting a couple of new colleagues who have joined the team in recent months.



#### Monitoring Visit in Cape Town: 6-9 April 2020

**Dr. Nabila Youssouf** and **Dr. David Lawrence** will be visiting **Prof. Graeme Meintjes** and the rest of the study team at the **Cape Town** recruiting sites (**Mitchells Plain Hospital** and **Khayelitsha District Hospital**) from **6-9 April 2020**.

As the first monitoring visit of 2020 in Cape Town, it will be a useful opportunity for colleagues to work closely together to ensure all trial procedures are being performed as per the protocol.





### MSc Alumnus Update: Dr. Kenneth Ssebambulidde

We will soon be welcoming **Dr. Kenneth Ssebambulidde (Study Doctor, Uganda)**, our **LSHTM alumnus** from the class of **2018-19**, back to London: as he prepares to attend the graduation ceremony to receive his **distinction in MSc in Immunology of Infectious Diseases**. We will be sure to share a few pictures from this joyous occasion with you all soon!



In the meantime, please be sure to check out the video update Kenneth kindly recorded recently. He talks us through his return to IDI and the subsequent projects in which he has been involved in since concluding his MSc studies in September. Check it out on the AMBITION website [here!](#)

### Henriette Kyepa, Research Pharmacist (UCT)



I obtained my Bachelor of Pharmacy degree in 2008, and afterwards proceeded to work in various sectors of pharmacy for the next nine years. Since completing a Masters in Public Health in 2017, I have been actively involved in clinical research.

I have worked on several trials at the Universities of Stellenbosch and Cape Town that have focused primarily on the treatment and prevention of tuberculosis and HIV infection.

I joined the AMBITION team as a Research Pharmacist in 2019. My role includes the management of study products, in addition to overseeing study-related activities.

I have a keen interest in qualitative research, especially research related to patient adherence.