

Equatorial Guinea and the PfSPZ vaccine

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A new malaria vaccine will soon enter the experimental phase. This vaccine, which is being developed by the American Pharmaceutical firm Sanaria, will attack the sporozoites and its first phase is expected to begin in January 2014 in Malabo - Equatorial Guinea. The CEO of Sanaria, Dr. Steve Hoffman alongside his entomologist was in Malabo to discuss the feasibility of experimenting this with the health authorities of Equatorial Guinea. He was advised that for this to happen, the ethics committee and the National Regulatory Authority must approve the protocol. During the different meetings that took place in Malabo to which CARN was invited, many questions were asked the firm managers especially as concerns its guarantee, efficiency, the innocuity as well as the cost

of the vaccine. The ethics committee and the national regulatory authority will be assisted technically by the WHO AFRO IST and some local experts. The Schweitzer research center in Lambaréné Gabon will also contribute with its practical expertise in the implementation of this type of research meanwhile Dr Salim Abdullah of Ifakara in Tanzania will be the principal investigator. A scientific committee will also be put in place. Other participants who took part with a lot of interest at the series of meetings were the Ministry of Mines, Marathon Oil, EGLING gas Production Company, the NGO MCDI, the University of Equatorial Guinea, the La Paz ultra modern Clinic, the National Malaria Control Program and WHO

APPOINTMENTS

DRC: Dr Joris Likwela, lecturer at the University of Kisangani and focal point for malaria in the Oriental Province has been appointed the Director of the NMCP. He will be assisted by Dr Albert Lukula, formerly in charge of the parasitology unit of the Bio-Medical Research Institute.

Gabon: Dr Safiou Razack focal point for M&E and Surveillance at the NMCP has been appointed the Director of the NMCP.

How Cameroon celebrated WMD on The 25th of April

Many events were successively organized during one week in prelude to the day itself on the 25th of April, 2013. The main events were: the giant KO Palu concerts with an address from the CARN Coordinator, presentations by the NMCP on the reduction of morbidity that has dropped from 41% in 2008 to 27% in 2012; sensitization campaigns organized by MC-CCAM targeting primary school students (where RDTs were done and 80% positive cases were registered) and promotion of T3 with medical students in the Faculty of Medicine, the press briefing organized by MNM and ACMS during which Exxon Mobile and MTN presented their contributions in the fight against malaria ; the conference by WHO



KO Palu Mega concert

and the Faculty of Medicine on the epidemiology, diagnosis and resistance. Celebrations reached its peak on the 25th of April with the Ministers of Health, Communication, Women's affair and other partners. Ten prizes were also awarded to the best community radios that had produced spots on the fight against malaria.

JOINT RBM/CARN MISSION TO EQUATORIAL GUINEA

CARN coordinator and Dr Carole Eboumbou of the CARN coordination committee carried out a mission to Malabo. During this mission, they participated at the Bioko Island Malaria Vaccine Initiative and had working sessions with the NMCP, WHO and MCDI. Discussions were on their Malaria Program Review, their road map, the level of reduction of malaria morbidity and mortality on the island of Bioko and prevailing situation on the mainland (two worlds apart). The main recommendation from the various meetings was that the Malaria Program Review should be conducted as soon as possible and the country should then finalise the road map based on solid gaps analysis.



Meeting with the Minister of Health of Equatorial Guinea

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