

GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH GROUP ON PREVENTION & MANAGEMENT OF NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND HIV INFECTION IN AFRICA.

COVID-19



Our African partners have been monitoring closely the situation with respect to coronavirus and we have been talking daily, to plan for potential impacts on the research. Research staff have been trained in measures to prevent acquisition of coronavirus including in the use of personal protective equipment; and we purchased supplies.

Both countries have moved swiftly against this new virus. Uganda now has a lockdown for 2 weeks.



RESEARCH STUDIES

Management of Chronic Conditions in Africa (MOCCA) – All data from Tanzania and Uganda are complete and the database should be locked soon. Levi from TASO has been analysing the data and is handing over to Usman to do further analyses.



META Trial Phase 2 – Enrolment is now at just over 150 participants. The 3rd site – Temeke Hospital - started screening today (26th March) and will start enrolment on Monday. We are trying to complete enrolment rapidly. We are working on plans to supply drugs and monitor patients if there is a lockdown.



INTE-AFRICA – The study started enrolment last week in Uganda when there were no cases of coronavirus reported in the country. Eight patients have been enrolled. Huge congratulations to the Uganda team, in reaching this key deliverable and milestone.

A lot has changed this week and Uganda has gone into a lockdown for a period of 2 weeks and this will severely curtail our activities for a period of time.

Tanzania went into a partial lockdown earlier, but this has not affected health care activities thus far.

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FUNDING UPDATE

We have signed contracts with EDCTP for the Phase 3 META trial in Tanzania. Partners on the grant are NIMR, LSTM, IS GLOBAL, Hindu Mandal Hospital and University of Bergen.

We have responded to reviewer comments on our NIHR Health Policy & Systems Research proposal and await final review by the NIHR Board.

Led by Moffat and Mfinanga, we have been successful in the first stage of NIHR RIGHT Call 3. To further develop our proposal for the second stage we will organise a virtual meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We had planned a series of meetings/trainings for week commencing 22 June:

- INTE-AFRICA partners meeting
- EDCTP Kick-off meeting
- International Steering Committee meeting
- Senior Policy-makers workshop
- Training in process evaluation
- Training in medical statistics

We will investigate if its practical to deliver some, or all, of these activities using technology instead of face to face. We will confirm in the coming weeks.

At this very challenging time we hope you and your families remain safe and healthy

With thanks to our funders:



This research was commissioned by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) using UK aid from the UK Government. The views expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the NIHR or the Department of Health and Social Care.



The INTE-AFRICA project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 825698.