



IMVACS is supported by Global Health EDCTP3 and its members.



IMVACS Kick-Off Meeting

Abidjan, Ivory Coast, 11th & 12th of February 2025

Meeting Venue: Novotel Marcory, Abidjan (Ivory Coast, Africa)

(Virtual participation on [Teams LINK TO MEETING](#) : [DAY 1 Teams](#), [Day 2 Teams](#))

Objective of the meeting

Despite available efficacy data on two malaria vaccines designed for broad use, there is little evidence about scalable delivery strategies in areas with seasonal malaria transmission.

The IMVACS project "Building multidisciplinary evidence to support Integrating Malaria VACcine with Seasonal malaria chemoprevention in West Africa" aims to implement and compare two strategies for dispensing the R21-Matrix-M vaccine in Mali and Burkina Faso.

We propose a multi-site, multi-disciplinary Phase IV cluster-randomized trial in Burkina Faso and Mali to evaluate the effectiveness, real-life impact, acceptability, feasibility and cost-effectiveness of a novel integrated delivery strategy of R21/Matrix-M in areas with highly seasonal malaria transmission.

We will compare campaign-style vaccination co-administered during Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention to vaccination following an age-based strategy in routine Essential Programme on Immunisation activities using a noninferiority design.

The project will ensure translation of results into policy and practice throughout areas of highly seasonal malaria transmission.

This meeting will be an opportunity to exchange between the IMVACS team members and the representatives of national programs of Burkina Faso and Mali. Discussions will help a good implementation of the research. First, all work packages will be presented, describing organization, milestones, deliverables and timelines, and then discussions will be held on key aspects of the project to determine how to best achieve our goals.



IMVACS Kick-Off Meeting

Day 1- 11th Feb 2025

<i>8:45- 9:00: Welcome and registration, please meet in room XXXX hosted by Anna Koffi</i>			
Time	Title	Who	Topic
9:00- 9:30 (30min)	Opening session	Prof Halidou Tinto (Observer) Prof Kassoum Kayentao Prof William Yavo	Introductions and welcome
9:30- 10:00 (30min)	General introduction	Prof Halidou Tinto	Presentation of Malaria vaccines, interest of the R21 integrated strategy
10:00- 10:30 (30min)	Introduction to IMVACS	Dr Dario Scaramuzzi Dr Valérie Briand Dr Magloire Natama	Objectives of the KoM, Objectives of the project, update of the project, topics to be discussed
10:30 – 11:00 (15min) Coffee break			
11:00-11:45 (45min)	National EPI programmes	EPI representatives	Plan for national roll out of R21, pharmacovigilance systems in place
11:45-12:05 (20min)	WP4: Trial Implementation	Prof Kassoum Kayentao	Overview of the study design (Clinical trial + Epi surveys, timetable)
12:05-12:20 (15min)	WP3: Scientific Leadership	Dr Magloire Natama	Strategic direction of the overall project, scientific communication strategy, activities to be performed
12:20- 12:50 (30min)	WP5: Data Management and Statistics	Elisabeth Baudin – <i>Robert Nsaibirni</i> (teams)	Activities to be performed, Presentation of data collection plan per objective
12:50- 14:00 (1h10) Lunch break			
14:00- 14:30 (30min)	WP6: Formative research and acceptability, feasibility and cost- effectiveness studies	Dr Eve Worrall Prof Jenny Hill	Activities to be performed
14:30- 14:40 (10min)	WP7: Training and capacity building	Dr Issaka Soumana	Activities to be performed
14:40- 15:00 (20min)	WP8: Communication, dissemination and translation into policy	Dr Dario Scaramuzzi	Objectives, deliverables and milestones of the WP Dissemination, Exploitation and Communication strategy, Translation strategy, logo, website and social media implementation
15:00- 15:15 (15min)	WP9: Trial Sponsorship	Laura Pichon	Activities to be performed



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15:15- 15:30 (15min)	WP2: Project Coordination	Dr Dario Scaramuzzi	Coordination/management of the grant, financial and administrative support and expectations
15:30- 16:00 (30min) <i>Coffee break</i>			
16:00-16:30 (30min)	Extra time to discuss the Safety Lead in and immunogenicity ancillary protocols	Natama Magloire	
17:00 – 17:30 (30min)	Debrief Day 1	Prof Kassoum Kayentao	

DAY 2- 12th Feb 2025

Time	Title	Chair/facilitator	Topic
9:00- 11:00 (2hours)	Discussion 1: Implementation of the study/ integration arm/ vaccination strategies	Kassoum and Natama	Discuss how the implementation of the integrated strategy will be done in Burkina Faso and Mali: Who? What? How?
11:00-11:30 <i>Coffee break</i>			
11:30- 11:50 (20min)	Discussion 2: Capacity building	Dr Valérie Briand-Issaka Soumana	Discuss PhD/PDRA
11:50-12:10 (20min)	Project Chad R21	Dr Valérie Briand	Possible interactions between the 2 projects
12:10- 12:30 (20min)	Lessons learnt	Kassoum Dario Valérie Tracy Dembélé Bihoun	Survey results and discussion
12:30- 14:00 <i>Lunch break</i>			
14:00-16:00 (2hours)	Small-group discussions including 1 group for Data collection (Intervention+ routine)/endpoints	All	Any topic of interest
16:00-16:20 <i>Coffee break</i>			
16:20-16:40 (20min)	Impacts of the project	Prof Kassoum Kayentao	Potential/expected benefits of the project, impact expected on policies, etc
16:40-17:10 (30min)	Closing ceremony	Dr Dario Scaramuzzi	Debrief, next steps, acknowledgements
19:00: Group Dinner with INTEGRATION Participants			

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Attendance: (26)

Epicentre -France

Valerie Briand

Elisabeth Baudin

Lise Denoeud

Laura Pichon

Issaka Soumana –Epicentre Niger

R-EvoWW -Italy

Dario Scaramuzzi

Raffaella Ledonne

Sara Greco

Chiara Cupri

LSTM -UK

Eve Worrall

Jenny Hill

Tracy Seddon

Kadiatou Koita

Jenna Hoyt

CNRST-IRSS- Burkina Faso

Halidou TINTO (Observer)

Magloire H. NATAMA

Serge OUOBA

Biebo BIHOUN

Barry Aissata - Représentante du Secrétariat Permanent pour l'élimination du paludisme (SP/PALU)

Rene Bakouan- Représentant de la Direction de la Prévention par la Vaccination (DPV)

USTTB - Mali

Kassoum Kayentao

Aissata Diallo

Mahamadou Dembele

Samba Diarra

Fady Toure- Representative of the National Malaria Control Programme

Ibrahim Gagna Diall- Representative of National Immunisation

