

Training (both short & long-term) and mentorships

EACCR2 awarded small grant fellowships to 4 junior fellows from countries who are members of the network's TB nodes, and through research methods mentorship and training, small call research has been conducted and 4 manuscripts are under preparation. 369 people have been trained in 10 different short courses across the network.



Scientists conducting Covid-19 research in a laboratory at UVRI (the EACCR Secretariat).

Networking and Communication

EACCR's strategic business and sustainability plan was developed with commitment from all partners. A transparent communication plan and governance structure exists. This plan includes use of emails, telephones, and other mechanisms of communication to improve the implementation of the project.

EACCR2 is part of other research Consortia including African Coalition for Epidemic Response and Research (ALERRT), Pan African Network for Rapid Research, response, and Preparedness for Infectious disease epidemic (PANDORA), Africa CDC, East Africa Public Health Laboratory Network Project, and WHO-AFRO among others.

THE EASTERN AFRICA CONSORTIUM FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH (EACCR3)

EACCR 3 Secretariat - Uganda Virus Research Institute – Entebbe, Uganda

6. Contact of EACCR-3 Work Package Coordinators

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EACCR3 is part of the EDCTP2 Programme supported by the European Union under grant agreement **CSA2020NoE-3102**

AIM

To strengthen and sustain Excellence in clinical trials on poverty-related, neglected and emerging infectious diseases through capacity-building, mentoring and networking for globally competitive clinical trials.

ABOUT US

1. Background

EACCR is an Eastern Africa-led network established in 2009 and comprises of 23 regional partners from Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda, and 5 Northern partners from Belgium, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and United Kingdom.

2. Objectives: -

- To establish the EACCR as a sustainable Network of Excellence (NoE) that synergizes with other networks to build capacity for conducting internationally recognized research in the Eastern Africa region.
- To establish a robust research programme that will support the conduct of ICH-GCP studies with special focus on co-morbidities between the PRDs and NCDs, other infections including but not limited to COVID-19.
- To deliver a training and mentorship program promoting an increase in the number of independent African researchers, research leaders and managers able to conduct internationally competitive clinical trials.
- To develop and improve a scalable, GCP compliant, robust statistics and data management platform.
- To strengthen and strategically expand South-South and North-South collaborations.

3. The 6 Work Packages (WP) and main institutions

WP No.	WP NAME	WP LEAD	WP CO-LEAD
1	HIV	UNHRO- UVRI	LSHTM
2	Malaria	ARCH	UOX
3	Training	GSF-KCMC	Radboudumc
4	NID	KEMRI	IEND & AIGHD
5	TB	NIMR	UCL
6	Coordination & Management	UNHRO-UVRI	GSF-KCMC

4. Partner Institutions:

Uganda National Health Research Organization (UNHRO); Entebbe, Uganda
 Institute of Endemic Diseases (IEND), University of Khartoum (UofK): Khartoum, Sudan.
 Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)-Wellcome Trust Research Programme, Kilifi, Kenya.
 KEMRI-Centre for Global Health Research: Kisumu, Kenya.
 London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)
 University of Rwanda (UR): Kigali Rwanda
 The University of Oxford (UOXF), Oxford, United Kingdom.
 National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR): Dar es Salaam Tanzania.
 University College London (UCL), United Kingdom.
 Karolinska Institutet (KI) Stockholm, Sweden.
 The Good Samaritan Foundation (Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre GSF KCMC) Moshi Tanzania.
 Stichting Amterdam Institute for Global Health and Development (AIGHD): Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
 Stichting Katholieke Universiteit-Radboudumc (RUMC), Nijmegen, the Netherlands.

5. Previous EACCR Performance, Capacity, and Experience:

The EACCR has become a strong and sustainable collaborative research platform, which has nurtured improved coordination and is consensus driven. And has reported the following achievements.

Facilitation of Health Research

It has contributed to a more than 150 peer review publications. (Funded by the grant and other grants with involvement of trainees and NoE scientists) established an East African pool of 25 senior and mentored clinical trial monitors in support of high-quality trials co-coordinated by participating countries. To promote career development among junior, mid- as well as senior scientists, the EACCR network successfully won and implemented several fellowship grants during the EACCR2 period. These included: Evaluation of Pharmacokinetics and Safety/Tolerability of Higher Doses of Rifampicin in Children with Newly Diagnosed, Uncomplicated Tuberculosis'-three years EDCTP -CDF grant. and 'Research capacity strengthening for emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases in Tanzania-EDCTP/TMA Senior Fellow-Five years (active).

Infrastructural Upgrades

Several sites were upgraded in EACCR 2 and are now participating in clinical studies in TB and comorbidities based on a diversity of funding sources, for instance at Kilimanjaro Clinical Research Institute (KCRI), where three sites were upgraded. At the Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI), upgrades were done to the UVRI clinic, a highly productive research institution as well as a level two health centre. By improving the data management capacity and building a patient waiting area. EACCR2 has over 25 fully functional clinical laboratories accredited to GCLP international standards (<https://slmta.org/accredited-labs>). These laboratories can be used by the network or contracted by an external clinical trial sponsor to support clinical trials in the region.