



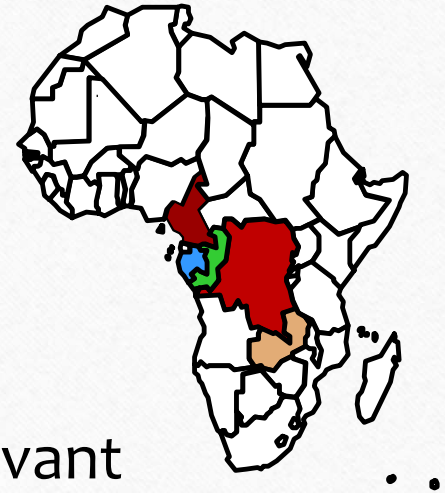
CANTAM
Central Africa Clinical Research Network



**What agenda is Central Africa pursuing to integrate
research (on NTD control) into policies?
Central Africa Clinical Research Network**

**Prof. Francine NTOUMI
Coordinator**

www.cantam.org



Main objective: Develop capacities for interventions/clinical research against relevant infectious diseases including neglected tropical infections in Central Africa in collaboration with local stakeholders



ISM
Higher Institute for
Scientific and Medical
Research

CANTAM
Central Africa Clinical Research Network

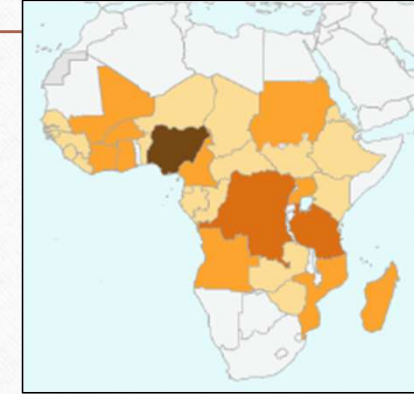
Cameroon

Test and not treat (TNT): a safe strategy to provide community-based treatment with ivermectin in *Loa loa* endemic areas

Major concern for oncho and LF programs: *Loa loa*

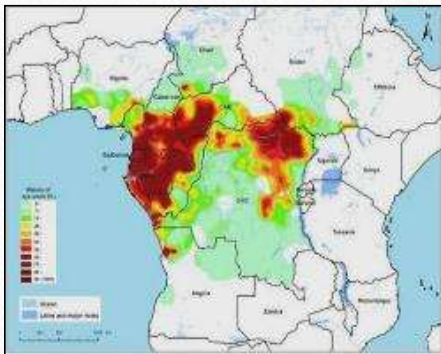


Oncho endemic countries



LF endemic countries

Elimination of onchocerciasis and Lymphatic filariasis is becoming a reality in many places but not in Central Africa due to loiasis with post treatment Severe Adverse Events sometimes fatal...

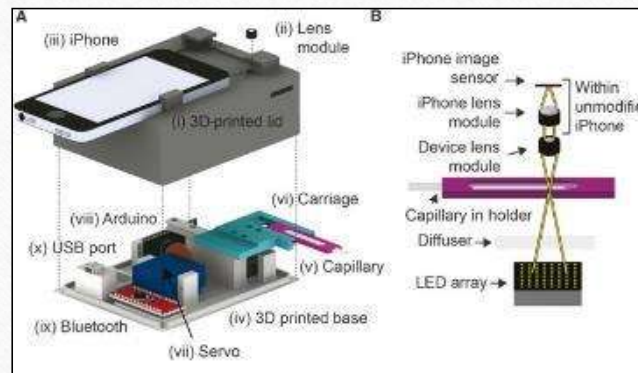


Loa loa endemicity

- Regions **excluded from MDA** due to increased risk of post **ivermectin** Serious Adverse Events
- At-risk individuals (Mf load > 20 000 mf/ml <5% of pop.) = barrier to MDA)

Test and (not) Treat - the tool: LoaScope

- Development of a rapid, field-applicable test to identify individuals with high levels of microfilaremia



Treat



Warn & Treat



Not Treat

Main results

- This strategy developed in Cameroon has allowed the safe treatment of onchocerciasis in loiasis co-endemic areas.
- With this strategy, it is now possible to eliminate onchocerciasis in Central Africa.
- The team is now working on the production of the LoaScope and capillaries and to make them available for national onchocerciasis control programs in Central Africa.

Challenge for Treatment

Reinfection rate of 25%



Dejon-Agobé et al. *Parasites Vectors* (2019) 12:577
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s13071-019-3836-6>


Parasites & Vectors

RESEARCH

Open Access



Schistosoma haematobium infection morbidity, praziquantel effectiveness and reinfection rate among children and young adults in Gabon

Jean Claude Dejon-Agobé^{1,2*} , Jean Ronald Edoa¹, Yabo Josiane Honkpehedji^{1,3}, Jeannot Fréjus Zinsou^{1,3}, Ruydó Demés Adégbità¹, Mirabeau Mhona Nwaga¹, Ange Manganba¹, Bertrand Lell^{1,4,5}



Urogenital schistosomiasis during pregnancy is associated with low birth weight delivery: analysis of a prospective cohort of pregnant women and their offspring in Gabon



Ghyslain Mombo-Ngoma^{a,b,c,d,e}, Josiane Honkpehedi^{a,b,c}, Arti Basra^{a,b,c}, Jean Rodolphe Mackanga^{a,b,c}, Rella Manego Zoleko^{a,b,c}, Jeannot Zinsou^{a,b,c}, Jean Claude Dejon Agobe^{a,b,c}, Bertrand Lell^{a,b,c}, Pierre-Blaise Matsiegui^f, Raquel Gonzales^g, Selidji Todagbe Agnandji^{a,b,c}, Maria Yazdanbakhsh^h, Clara Menendez^g, Peter G. Kremsner^{a,b,c}, Ayola Akim Adegnika^{a,b,c,e}, Michael Ramharter^{a,b,i,*}

^a Centre de Recherches Médicales de Lambaréné (CERMEL), Albert Schweitzer Hospital, BP 118 Lambaréné, Gabon

^b Institute of Tropical Medicine, University of Tübingen, 72074 Tübingen, Germany

^c German Centre for Infection Research (DZIF), Partner Site Tübingen, Germany

^d Département de Parasitologie-Myxologie, Université des Sciences de la Santé, BP 4009 Libreville, Gabon

^e Leiden University Medical Centre (LUMC), 2333 ZA Leiden, The Netherlands

^f Ngounie Medical Research Centre, BP 133 Fougamou, Gabon

Schistosomiasis
associated with
poor pregnant
outcomes

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

