

Consortium: **Setting the Post Elimination Agenda for Kala-Azar in India**
(**SPEAK India**)

Vivanta by Taj-Ambassador Hotel
New Delhi, India, 3rd-5th November 2016

LONDON
SCHOOL of
HYGIENE
& TROPICAL
MEDICINE



Prof Mary Cameron (LSHTM)

“The proposed consortium – Board, Steering Committee, initial membership, TOR and aims”

Overall Aim

To strengthen, support, and mobilize the VL scientific and programmatic community to form a consortium with a mission to drive towards sustainable elimination of VL in northern India.

**Consortium: Setting the Post Elimination Agenda for
Kala-Azar in India
(SPEAK India)**

Objectives

1. to develop a forum for constructive discussion around the transmission dynamics of VL, bringing together the scientific, logistic and practical expertise, and
2. to use this forum to define the gaps in our understanding that threaten elimination and its sustainability, analyse existing or new data and findings, and to develop protocols, methodologies and actions that can rapidly provide the missing information.

Activities for objective 1



1. Establish a Board and a Steering committee

Board:

- main purpose is to direct the consortium and ensure that the outputs of the consortium are aligned with national policy,
- will meet twice a year,
- the first Board meeting is today (3rd Nov 2016).

Steering Committee:

- main purpose is to identify the important questions with operational impact, and to maintain engagement of operational experts, so that outcomes will address data needs and that policy change is timely implemented,
- will meet monthly (mostly remotely),
- the first Steering Committee meeting is tomorrow (4th Nov 2016).

The Board and Steering Committee



The Board

Dr Soumya Swaminathan
(ICMR)

Dr A.C. Dhariwal
(NVBDCP)

Prof N K Ganguly (THSTI)

Prof Don Bundy (BMGF)

Dr Ahmed Jamsheed
Mohamed (SEARO),

+ Elected Chair of the
Steering Committee

The Steering Committee

Dr Rashmi Arora (ICMR)

Dr Pradeep Das (RMRIMS)

Dr Nupur Roy (NVBDCP)

Prof Suman Rijal (DNDi)

Prof Shyam Sundar
(KAMRC/BHU)

Dr Raj Gosh (BMGF),

Dr Saurabh Jain (WHO)

Prof Mary Cameron (LSHTM)

Activities for objective 1

2. Review of researchers and stakeholders involved in VL initiatives:

- identify all of the researchers and stakeholders currently funded on VL control initiatives in the ISC,
- ensure that all the different areas of expertise needed to address the key research questions relating to sustaining elimination are represented (consituency: 30 national, 8 international & 3 applicants),
- consituency may change to include implementers of the future.

Initial membership

National Delegates

Dr R.K Das Gupta, Dr M P Sharma, Dr. Geeta Yadav, Dr. Vijay Nath Khanna, Dr. Adhip Ghosh & Dr. V K Raina (NVBDCP), Dr. Manju Rahi, Dr Poonam Salotra & Dr. Sarala K. Subbarao (ICMR), Dr Krishna Pandey, Dr. Vijay Kumar & Dr. V.N.R. Das (ICMR/RMRIMS), Prof A.P. Dash (Chennai), Dr Rajesh Pandey (WHO), Dr Sridhar Srikantiah (CARE), Dr Ram Singh (NCDC), Dr Sakib Burza (MSF), Prof Mitali Chatterjee (PGMER), Dr Jambulingam Purushothaman (VCRC), Dr. Amresh Kumar (PATH), Dr Vishal Goyal (DNDi), Dr. Shyamal Roy (CPBU), Dr RP Goswami (School of Tropical Medicine, Kolkata), Dr Om Prakash Singh & Dr Jaya Chakravarty (BHU), Dr. R. Madhubala (SLS), Dr Sanghamitra Pati (RMRC), Usha Kiran Tarigopula (BMGF), Dr Vijayashree Holalkere Yellappa (IPH), Sarabjit Chadha (The Union South-East Asia Office)

International Delegates

Prof Simon Croft (LSHTM)
Prof Graham Medley (LSHTM)
Dr Piero Olliaro (WHO)
Dr Marleen Boelaert (ITM)
Prof Janet Hemingway (LSTM)
Dr Dinesh Mondal (ICDDR)
Dr Deirdre Hollingsworth (Warwick)
Mr Richard Poche (Genesis)
Dr Murari Lal Das (KIHS)
Dr. Malcom Duthie (IDRI)
Dr Randall Howard (IDRI)
Dr. Greg Matlashewski (McGill)

Activities for objective 1

3. Consortium Webpage

- A consortium webpage will be developed by a newly appointed Research Assistant (Shannon McIntyre).
- The webpage will be regularly updated with material that consortium members may wish to share (e.g. past and current activities and/or any data generated).
- The webpage will serve as a communication and information tool for consortium members, raise their research profile, and result in rapid dissemination of posted material.

Activities for objective 2

The main aim of this first consortium meeting is to reach a consensus concerning the gaps in our understanding of VL transmission that challenge sustained elimination.

The specific objectives of meeting are to:

- review the current situation of VL transmission in India (latest surveillance figures from the National Programme and independent partners),
- outline specific challenges relating to VL elimination including criteria of elimination, surveillance, diagnostics, treatment and management,
- define the research questions for timely implementation of multi-disciplinary research projects in India to improve our understanding of VL transmission through disease modelling and strengthen the post-elimination strategy,
- formulate a road map to transfer the technology on vector biology, disease modelling and diagnostics from international partners,
- plan the strategy to review the programme performance to define mutually agreed data and information required to support on-going and future control interventions,
- agree the structure of the consortium and its terms of reference.

Acknowledgements

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DNDi

Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative*

BILL & MELINDA
GATES *foundation*

Many thanks to:

ICMR

DNDi

The Board

The Steering Committee

The General Assembly

Administrators at LSHTM (Linda Armafió & Rosa Arques)