

Malaria Bulletin



OFFICE OF MALARIA RESEARCH

October 2015

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GET TO KNOW SA's MALARIA CONTROL PROGRAMME MANAGERS

Mr Aaron Mpoti Mabuza

Mr Aaron Mabuza holds a National Diploma in Public Health from Mangosuthu Technikon. He has also completed courses in Basic and Applied Epidemiology (National Department of Health); Primary Health Care, Health Management and Principles of Data Management (University of Pretoria).

Mr Mabuza began his career as a health assistant at the Department of Health in 1977. During the period of 1977-1982 his responsibilities focused on TB controls, immunization and public health education. His introduction to malaria began in 1983 when he was appointed field officer for malaria control, a position he occupied until 1987. Over the next three years Mr Mabuza held the position of environmental health officer where some of his responsibilities included inspection of food handling at businesses, cholera monitoring and investigation of typhoid cases amongst others.

He re-entered the field of malaria control in July 1991 and is currently the Malaria Programme Manager for Mpumalanga Province. The current focus of Mr Mabuza's position is to improve community protection against malaria using all available recommended means, adapt and develop more efficient methods for parasite and vector mosquito control and through research and regional collaboration reduce cross border malaria transmission in order to reduce the burden of disease in affected districts and the province as a whole.

Mr Mabuza is registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa as an Environmental Health Officer. He serves as a member of the Malaria Advisory Group, the SA Malaria Elimination Committee and is chairperson of the sub-committee on Vector Control. He has been involved in the training of malaria spray operators in Maputo, Gaza provinces, Mozambique, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana and Sierra Leone. In 2014, Mr Mabuza was nominated by the National

Department of Health to form part of the team that would support the Union of Comoros malaria programme. Mr Mabuza is currently a member of MOSASWA cross border malaria initiative and serves as the chairperson of the implementation committee.

Mr Aaron Mabuza has contributed to various publications and has attended conferences in South Africa and the African region. He has served the National Department of Health for the past 38 years and must be applauded for his contribution to South Africa's malaria control efforts.

Erratum

The September 2015 issue of the malaria bulletin incorrectly stated that Prof LL Koekemoer is the Head of the Vector Control Reference Unit (VCRU). Prof Basil Brooke is currently Head of the VCRU.

NEWS ARTICLES

Some "light" reading - kindly visit the links to read the full articles.

- Amid rising malaria cases, the Cambodian government refuses to sign agreement for Global Fund grant over requirements to account for travel and hotel costs.
<http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2015/oct/20/cambodia-battle-against-malaria-at-risk-global-fund-government-exp...>
- In a recent breakthrough to combat malaria, a collaboration of Indian and American scientists have identified a malarial parasite protein that can be used to develop antibodies when displayed on novel nanoparticles.
<http://medicalxpress.com/news/2015-10-approach-broad-spectrum-malaria-vaccine.html>

Video Clip: Diagnosis: Key to Malaria Control

The following video clip from ACT Consortium shows malaria experts discussing the importance of diagnostics in malaria control. These include Andrea Bosman from the WHO, Valerie D'Acremont from the Swiss Institute of Tropical Medicine and Public Health, as well as David Schellenberg and other ACT Consortium Investigators.

<https://vimeo.com/138976784>

Latest news from UP CSMC

Earlier this month, the University of Pretoria Centre for Sustainable Malaria Control signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Chinese National Institute of Parasitic Diseases (China CDC). The MoU will pave the way for collaboration between the two centres with a view to research on and the eventual elimination of malaria. Please visit the link to read the full article.

<http://www.up.ac.za/en/news/post 2181681-mou-paves-the-way-for-collaboration-towards-malaria-research-and-elimination>

FUNDING / OPPORTUNITIES

- The GHIT Fund announced an investment opportunity for the development of new medicines, vaccines, and diagnostics for infectious diseases that are prevalent in the developing world. Proposed projects should address health needs in the developing world or fill a gap in global health technologies for infectious diseases. Deadline – intent to apply: 15 November 2015
<https://www.ghitfund.org/afag/grant/en>

LOCAL AND OVERSEAS CONFERENCES

Below please find links to some of the malaria related conferences advertised for the remaining months of 2015 as well as for early 2016. For more information visit the relevant websites:

1. 6th Federation of Infectious Diseases Societies of Southern Africa Congress 2015 – Emerging Threats
November 5-8, 2015
Drakensburg, South Africa
www.fidssa.co.za
2. 9th World Congress of the World Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases (WSPID) 2015
November 18-21, 2015
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
<http://wspid.kenes.com/>
3. 5th Molecular Approaches to Malaria (MAM) Conference
February 21-25, 2016
Lorne, Victoria, Australia
<http://www.mamconferences.org/>
4. 17th International Congress on Infectious Diseases
March 2-5, 2016
Hyderabad, India
www.isid.org/ucid/
5. Immunology 2016 – Annual Meeting of the American Association of Immunologists
May 13-17, 2016
Seattle, Washington, USA
<http://www.immunology2016.org/>

PRESENTATION ICE-BREAKER!



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