

Malaria Bulletin



OFFICE OF MALARIA RESEARCH

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Table of Contents

Tribute to Frans Mbokazi 3

News Articles..... 3

Recently Published articles..... 5

Funding / Opportunities 5

Local & Overseas Conferences..... 6

Presentation Ice-breaker!..... 8

Tribute to Mr Manzane Frans Mbokazi

It was only last month that the Office of Malaria Research profiled Mr Frans Mbokazi in the bulletin. The sad news of his passing over the Heritage Day weekend has shocked the malaria community in South Africa. At the young age of 55 there was a great deal that Mr Mbokazi still had to offer in the fight towards malaria elimination in South Africa. His 22 years at the Mpumalanga Department of Health is testament of his dedication to his work in the malaria field.

Mr Mbokazi started his professional career as an environmental health student at the Mpumalanga Department of Health in 1994. By 1998 he was a senior environmental health practitioner and from 2008 until his untimely passing he held the position of assistant director at the Department. Mr Mbokazi's commitment to his educational and professional development did not stop after he achieved a Master of Science in Medicine (Biology and Control of African Disease Vectors) as he went on to undertake and complete many certified courses which enhanced his role within the malaria programme at the Department of Health.

The SAMRC Office of Malaria Research together with the South African malaria community conveys its heartfelt condolences to his wife and family.

NEWS ARTICLES

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

- "Seasonal changes in climate may muddle results of malaria interventions in Africa." Read the full article: <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2017-09-seasonal-climate-results-malaria-interventions.html>
- "A drug-resistant malaria superbug is on the rise — here's why that's so concerning." <http://uk.businessinsider.com/drug-resistant-malaria-greater-mekong-southeast-asia-2017-9>

- “Genetically modified approaches to fighting malaria succeed in new tests.” Read the article about studies conducted by researchers from Johns Hopkins University’s Malaria Research Institute. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/speaking-of-science/wp/2017/09/28/genetically-modified-solutions-to-deadly-malaria-inch-toward-reality/?utm_term=.24e233198998
- “Tata Trusts to start project to eradicate malaria in India.” The Trusts will invest \$70 million over the next 5 years to set up The Tata Institute of Genetics and Society in Bengaluru together with the University of California San Diego and the Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine (InStem) in Bengaluru. For more about this read: <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/company/corporate-trends/tata-trusts-to-start-project-to-eradicate-malaria-in-india/articleshow/60847108.cms>
- “Dengue, malaria spurt: How insecticide officers are combating mosquito breeding.” Dr Rajan Naringrekar, an insecticide officer explains the situation in Mumbai, India. For the full story read: <http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/maharashtra-dengue-malaria-spurt-how-insecticide-officers-are-combating-mosquito-breeding-4862886/>
- “Kenya moves malaria treatment closer to home.” Community health volunteers assist to fight malaria and TB. Read the article on: <https://www.africanindy.com/environment/kenya-moves-malaria-treatment-closer-to-home-11308271>
- “Metabolism directly impacts the odds of developing malaria. Researchers from Instituto de Medicina Molecular (iMM) Lisboa, have found that the host's susceptibility to develop malaria depends on his or her metabolic state.” Read the full article. <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/09/170925133018.htm>

- “Drug candidate may reduce spread of the parasite.” Researchers at the Columbia University Medical Centre have identified a class of compounds that help the fight against malaria. Full story: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/09/170906114607.htm>

RECENTLY PUBLISHED ARTICLES

- Izadi H, Focke WW, Asaadi E, Maharaj R, Pretorius J, Loots MT. A promising azeotrope-like mosquito repellent blend. Scientific Reports. 2017;7:1-11. doi:10.1038/s41598-017-10548-y

FUNDING / OPPORTUNITIES

- Joint WHO-AFRO/TDR/EDCTP Small Grants Scheme for implementation research on infectious diseases of poverty. This call is for applications for implementation research that can cover a range of diseases, conducted through close collaboration between researchers and national disease programmes. Deadline 30 November 2017. For more information please visit: http://www.who.int/tdr/grants/calls/WHO-AFRO_TDR_EDCTP_small_grants/en/
- In line with the objectives of the Moscow Declaration and the BRICS STI framework the NRF is pleased to announce the 2nd BRICS Multilateral Call for 2018 joint projects, and herewith invite all interested parties to submit their applications, by a date no later than 1 December 2017. All South African applications must be submitted through an online application process to the NRF at <https://nrfsubmission.nrf.ac.za>

LOCAL AND OVERSEAS CONFERENCES

Below please find links to malaria related conferences advertised for 2017. For more information please visit the relevant websites:

1. 10th European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health
October 16-20, 2017
Antwerp, Belgium
<http://www.ectmih2017.be/ehome/188459/426833/>
2. American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH)
66th Annual Meeting
November 5-9, 2017
The Baltimore Convention Center
Baltimore, Maryland USA
<http://www.astmh.org/>
3. SAMRC Office of Malaria Research
3rd Annual Malaria Research Conference
November 7-9, 2017
NICD, Johannesburg, South Africa
<http://malariaconference.mrc.ac.za>
4. 5th International congress on infectious diseases,
March 1-2, 2018
Berlin, Germany
<https://infectioncongress.conferenceseries.com/>
5. 7th MIM Pan African Malaria Conference
April 15-20, 2018
Dakar, Senegal
<http://www.mim2018.com/mim/en/>

6. 7th International Conference on Bacteriology and Infectious Diseases
May 21-22, 2018
Osaka, Japan
<https://bacteriologycongress.conferenceseries.com/>
7. 1st Malaria World Congress
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre
July 1-5, 2018
Melbourne, Australia
<http://www.worldmalariacongress.org/>

PRESENTATION ICE-BREAKER!



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