

FRIDAY / OCTOBER 26

1:00 – 4:00 PM

Breakout Session 1

HOW CAN CURRENT LF AND TRACHOMA SURVEY DATA INFLUENCE POLICY?

Ensuring that outcomes of data analysis are widely shared and used to influence the next generation of policy is critical. The Global Programme to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis (GPELF) and the WHO Alliance for the Global Elimination of Trachoma by 2020 (GET2020) both have standardized methodologies for determining when mass drug administration (MDA) can be stopped. Pass rates for the LF stopping-MDA transmission assessment survey and the trachoma impact survey are quite different. Potential reasons for this difference include transmission dynamics, such as the role of hygiene and environment in transmission of trachoma; diagnostic methods used; and recommendations for survey eligibility. The overall aim of this session is to present the latest analysis of factors impacting LF and trachoma survey results. The session will explore how the factors causing these differences could influence policy changes for each disease, and what further evidence is needed before policy could be changed.

Moderators: **Molly Brady** and PJ Hooper

Results of Pre-TAS data Analysis in 13 Countries

(Speaker: Clara Burgert)

Results of Trachoma Impact Survey and Trachoma Surveillance Survey Data Analysis in 9 Countries

(Speaker: Jeremiah Ngondi)

SATURDAY / OCTOBER 27

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Breakout Session 2

NON-COMPLIANCE: POPULATIONS, CAUSES, AND FORMULATING A PROGRAMMATIC RESPONSE

Challenges related to low coverage can be defined as supply side (getting the treatment to the population) or demand side (having a population willing to take the treatment). A proportion of people who are offered, or even given, the treatment, do not accept it– they don't show up at treatment posts, they refuse when offered, or they accept the tablets but do not swallow them. This group is what we are calling 'non-compliers' and whom this session will be focused on.

Moderators: **Maggie Baker** and Caroline Kusi

Non-compliance in the Nepal LF Program

(Speaker: Achut Babu Ojha)

Non-compliance in the Indonesia LF Program

(Speaker: Ria Larasati)

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Breakout Session 2

EXPLORING DISTRIBUTION PLATFORMS TO MAINSTREAM STH PC

As countries scale-down their LF programs, there is a need to determine how to mainstream STH PC distribution in order to ensure the gains towards STH control are sustained. In particular, new or existing alternative treatment platforms may need to be identified. Currently no framework exists which can assist policy makers and program managers in contextualizing and developing approaches to mainstreaming STH programs. Therefore, as a first step, there is a need to understand what are key factors in determining appropriate alternative distribution platforms to sufficiently reach all 3 at-risk populations. Furthermore, while a 75% coverage threshold has been proposed for WRA, limited evidence is available to validate this value. This session will present country, regional and global examples of grappling with these issues, highlighting where initial OR is already taking place to answer these questions and raising gaps in current knowledge.

Moderators: Rubina Imtiaz, **Katie Zoerhoff**

Comparison of School-based vs Community-based Deworming Platforms

(Speaker: Mike French)

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Breakout Session 2

ALIGNING NTD PROGRAMMES WITH UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE: LESSONS FROM RESEARCH

Following the Sustainable Development Goals and targets set by World Health Assembly resolutions, there is increasing focus within the global health and development community on Universal Health Coverage (UHC). In this context, there is intensified pressure on disease programmes to operate diagonally – delivering disease-specific outcomes while strengthening health systems more broadly. This session aims to better acquaint the COR-NTD audience with the language and principles of UHC, exploring good practices in the alignment of NTD programmes with UHC, lessons learnt from implementation and operation research and defining a role for OR in facilitating that alignment. It is a new issue of increasing importance for the COR-NTD audience. All operational researchers will be expected by implementing countries and their partners, including donors, to document the intended and unintended consequences of NTD programmes for health systems, across all building blocks, and in turn for the objectives of UHC.

Moderator: Gautam Biswas

Governance: The Role of Governance and Leadership in Sustaining NTD Program Implementation in Kenya

(Speaker: **Wangeci Thuo**)

1:00 – 4:00 PM

Breakout Session 3

IDENTIFYING AND RESPONDING TO NON-RESPONSIVE SCHISTOSOMIASIS AND STH AREAS FOLLOWING TREATMENT

Globally, treatment coverage against schistosomiasis and STH is increasing. However, some areas do not respond well to treatment, and in these places high coverage is not sufficient to reduce levels of prevalence and infection intensity. These non-responsive areas, also referred to as “persistent hot-spots”, represent barriers to achieving the control of morbidity and elimination as a public health problem. This session will discuss how programs can identify persistent hotspots following treatment and determine its causes. The output of the session will be the identification of research studies to answer program-relevant questions: What is the definition of a non-responsive area? Does this vary by species, location, and programmatic goal? How can programs identify persistent hotspot areas? Which monitoring and sampling approaches should be used? How can programs determine the cause of sub-optimal response to treatment? What qualitative and quantitative tools do they need to identify the root causes of poor treatment response?

Moderators: **Mike French** and Rubina Imtiaz

For the full agenda and list of breakout sessions for the COR-NTD 2018 Meeting, please visit
<http://www.cvent.com/events/cor-ntd-meeting-2018/event-summary-b8e14c8624f4481f80dee7b44a77c03.aspx>

ENVISION at COR-NTD 2018