



CRFiIMT

Centre for Research on Filariasis
& other Tropical Diseases

The Centre for Research on Filariasis and other Tropical Diseases (CRFiIMT)

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- History
- Presentation
- Infrastructure
- Main research topics
-
- Main achievements
- CANTAM Network

- CRFiMT was created in 2005 with the main objectives to:
 - ensure the surveillance of post-ivermectin Severe Adverse Events (SAEs)
 - ensure the safe implementation of Community Directed Treatment with ivermectin in Loa co-endemic areas following the MEC/TCC guidelines
 - conduct research to identify the other risk factors, the pathophysiology, the better management and the prevention of post-ivermectin SAEs
- With years, CRFiMT has extended his activities to NTDs in general

CRFiIMT Government Bodies

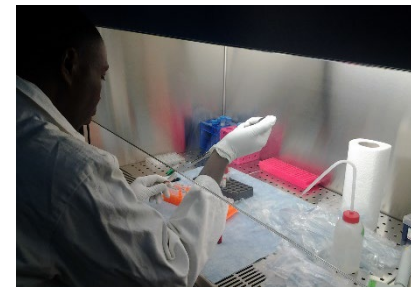
- Administration council
- Scientific committee
- Management board

Staff (20 personnel)

- Scientists (Epidemiologists, Parasitologists, Immunologists, Entomologists)
- General practitioners
- Pharmacist
- Nurses
- Lab Technicians
- Administration team
 - Administrator
 - Accountants (2)

Actual site

- Offices
- Meeting room
- Laboratories
- Insectary
- Molluscarium



Future site

- Clinical Research Centre
 - Pre-clinical studies
 - Phase I or II Clinical Trials (12 beds)
- Clinical Laboratory
- Specialized Laboratories
 - Molecular Biology
 - Virology
 - Bacteriology
 - Parasitology
- Amphitheater
- Meeting room



- Mapping of Filariasis in Cameroon and the Sub region
- Mass treatment Impact studies
- Diagnostic tools evaluation
- Post Ivermectin SAEs
- Pre-clinical tests and Clinical trials
- Experimental studies on the transmission of NTDs (Ongoing)

- Nationwide Mapping of lymphatic filariasis in Cameroon
- Contribution in onchocerciasis and loiasis mapping in Cameroon and in the sub-region
- Lymphatic Filariasis Transmission Assessment Survey in Cameroon
- Onchocerciasis post-treatment impact assessments and collateral impact of CDTI on loiasis

- Evaluation of newly designed RDT for onchocerciasis, lymphatic filariasis and loiasis diagnosis
 - Ov16 (Onchocerciasis)
 - Ov16 / Wb 123 Biplax (Onchocerciasis + lymphatic filariasis)
 - FTS (Lymphatic Filariasis)
 - Loa Antibody Rapid Test (Loiasis)
- Evaluation and validation of the LoaScope, the tools for Test and Not Treat Strategy

- Surveillance of post-ivermectin (IVM) SAEs
- Other risk factors of post IVM SAEs
- Pathophysiology of post IVM SAEs
- Prevention of Post IVM SAEs

- Since 2000 to date, we have recorded all the SAEs in Cameroon
- These SAEs were reported to the Ministry of Public Health and to Mectizan Donation Program
- Training of personnel in Cameroon and in Africa about the diagnosis and management of post IVM SAEs

- Malaria was hypothesized as risk factor of post-IVM SAE, but we found no relationship between infection by malaria and post IVM SAE.
- Loa strains was also considered as a potential risk factor of post-IVM SAE with the hypothesis that *L. loa* inducing SAEs had a nocturnal periodicity. A similar periodicity was observed between cases of SAEs and controls.

- Five clinical trials with the objective to safely treat Loiasis (Pre-treatment)
 - Albendazole
 - Low dose ivermectin
 - Antimalarial drugs
- Test and Not Treat (TaNT)

- Systematic test of loa microfilaraemia before the treatment with IVM
 - Pilot Studies in 02 Health Districts in Cameroon (Okola and Soa)
 - More than 55,000 treatments in Loa endemic areas without a single post-treatment SAE
- Extension of this strategy in Loa endemic areas in Central Africa
 - Coordinators of Oncho program of the Sub-Region and DRC will come to Cameroon

- **More than 100 MD, Master and PhD theses**
- **~100 Scientific Publications** in peer reviewed Journals
- **National Recognition**
 - 2009: Ministry of Health Official Satisfaction Testimony
- **International Recognition**
 - 2015: Islamic Bank of Development Price for Science and Technology
- **Networking**

CANTAM is a Network funded by EDCTP

- HIV
- TB
- Malaria
- Since 2017: NTDs
 - Coordination of NTDs' activities in the Network by CRFiIMT

Some partners



BILL &
MELINDA
GATES
foundation



**Thank You for your kind
Attention**