Capacity development, training and research uptake

PO - (8471) - A SURVEY ON CURRENT CLINICAL DATA MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

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Introduction | Info on clinical data management (CDM) practices of clinical trials in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) is scarce. As part of ALERRT (the African coalition for Epidemic Research, Response and Training, an EDCTP funded project) we want to gauge current CDM and ICT practices and identify possible gaps within different research institutions in SSA. This information will be used to develop a scalable, GCP-compliant, robust CDM/ICT infrastructure suitable for resource-poor settings and response-ready in the event of an outbreak.

Methods | An online survey was designed to assess the participating sites’ experience with the various CDM processes, CDM documentation and facilities, the availability of dedicated staff and their experience with GCP. In addition, ICT features essential to CDM will be assessed. Lastly, information on the use of CDM software will be obtained. Respondents can request to receive personalized feedback (aimed to improve their CDM practices) based on their results. The survey, in English and French, will be sent out to 100 sites in SSA. Sites with intermittent internet connections will be sent a word version of the survey.

Results | The survey will be closed after a month. Personalized feedback (if requested) will be sent to the respondents. Descriptive analysis of the survey results will be done and results will be used to design standard data management tools, tailored to the needs of research sites in SSA and suitable for emergency research. Both results and tools will be disseminated to the scientific community.

Conclusion | The results of this survey will provide relevant information on the current CDM and ICT practices in SSA. Potential pitfalls will be identified and opportunities for improvement will be addressed. Furthermore, the survey will offer a chance to exchange ideas between African and European partners on how to implement good CDM and ICT practices.