

Poster presentation

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PI5-25. Preparation for HIV vaccine trials in Africa: barriers and facilitators for the establishment of a community advisory board in Burkina Faso

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from AIDS Vaccine 2009
Paris, France. 19–22 October 2009

Published: 22 October 2009

Retrovirology 2009, **6**(Suppl 3):P226 doi:10.1186/1742-4690-6-S3-P226

This abstract is available from: <http://www.retrovirology.com/content/6/S3/P226>

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Background

Involvement of community level stakeholders in the future HIV vaccine trials is essential to ensure that rights, views, concerns, needs and expectations of the target population are fully taken into account in all phases of their implementation. We carried out a multicomponent situation analysis in two future urban sites in Burkina Faso to identify the proper way to setting up a CAB competent to accompany the trials.

Methods

HIVTAB project is funded by European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership in Tanzania and partly by French National Agency for AIDS Research (ANRS) in Burkina Faso to strengthen research capacities in preparation to future HIV vaccine trials. Social science methods were applied in recruiting of 23 key informants for in-depth interviews and 03 focus groups discussions between investigators and representatives of community-based NGOs were conducted.

Results

Since 2007 Sidaction provided support to a Network of NGO'S involved in protection of research participants. Also ANRS supports clinical trials in Burkina properly

shaped by ANRS ethics charter. The community's leaders want the New CAB to be built around Sidaction initiative. They also prefer one CAB for all the research projects fully or partly managed by the ANRS in Burkina Faso. This CAB will provide impartial witnesses and advice on research design, implementation and dissemination of findings to the community. To protect the confidentiality of studies participants, all members of CAB will sign a confidentiality agreement. The community's representatives want to charge all the projects, particularly the HIVTAB-Project for all the fees related to the implementation of the CAB.

Conclusion

The EDCTP-funded HIVTAB project, by establishing a CAB will enhance community involvement in preparation for future HIV vaccine trials. Nevertheless the funding sources of this CAB and the qualification of community representatives need further discussions and clarifications to not jeopardize its independence and credibility.