Symposium: Innovative Approaches to Establishing and Strengthening Regional Laboratory Networks for Disease Surveillance and Clinical Care in Africa (27-29th March, 2017)

Day 1, Group 1: Establishing and/or Strengthening Five Regional Surveillance Laboratory Networks in Africa

Moderators: Jay Varma, Africa CDC • Alash'le Abimiku, Institute of Human Virology, Nigeria

1. How does Africa CDC define success in 2 years or 5 years in strengthening regional surveillance laboratory networks across the continent?
2. How does Africa CDC measure progress?
3. What are the respective roles and metrics for Africa CDC and its 5 regional centers?

Day 1, Group 2: Need and Strategy to Map Laboratories and Networks

Moderators: Rosanna Peeling, LSHTM • Lucy Maryogo-Robinson, APHL

1. What laboratory networks and resources already exist in Africa that Africa CDC (including its regional centers) can utilize to strengthen laboratory-based surveillance?
    a. Influenza Laboratory Network
    b. Emerging and Dangerous Pathogens Laboratory Network (EDPLN)
    c. Polio Laboratory Network
    d. Measles and Rubella Laboratory Network
    e. Tuberculosis Laboratory Network
    f. Rotavirus Laboratory Network
    g. HIV Drug Resistance Laboratory Network
    h. Pediatric Bacterial Meningitis (PBM) Laboratory Network
2. How does Africa CDC and its Regional Centers build a comprehensive list of laboratory networks in Africa?
3. How does Africa CDC and its Regional Centers map clinical laboratories (public and non-public) and their respective systems?
4. What strategy does Africa CDC take, including initial steps, to connect laboratory networks and clinical laboratories at the regional and continental level?

Day 1, Group 3: Need and Strategy to Map Surveillance Networks and Integration with Laboratory Networks

Moderators: Ali Yahaya, Congo Brazzaville • Fausta Mosha, Tanzania

1. What multi-country surveillance networks and resources already exist in Africa that Africa CDC (including its regional centers) can utilize to strengthen disease intelligence?
2. Are the networks identified in question #1 already integrated into a laboratory network? If not, what are the barriers to doing integrating a laboratory network?

Commented [VJ(1]: I don't have a good understanding of how this topic is different from previous one. Are you referring to human health surveillance networks that rely on case-based reporting (provider reporting)?

3. How does Africa CDC and its Regional Centers build a comprehensive list of surveillance networks in Africa?
4. What strategy does Africa CDC take, including initial steps, to connect existing surveillance networks and laboratory networks at the regional and continental level?

Commented [VJ(2]: Can you give an example of what you mean by this? For example, linking MDR-TB surveillance to case-based outcomes?

Day 2, Group 1: Strategies to Conduct Antimicrobial Surveillance in Five Geographic Regions of Africa Using Standardize Protocols

Moderators: Linda Boulanger, CDC Ethiopia • Amadou Sall, Institut Pasteur

1. What protocols and systems for antimicrobial surveillance at the national level already exist in Africa?
2. What protocols and systems for antimicrobial surveillance at the multi-country level already exist in Africa?
3. What pathogens are excluded in surveillance systems discussed in questions #1 and #2 and should be included in future surveillance activities?
4. What steps should Africa CDC (including its regional centers) take to harmonize, enhance, and disseminate protocols for antimicrobial surveillance?
5. What steps should Africa CDC (including its regional centers) take to implement surveillance across the 5 African regions?

Day 2, Group 2: Practical and Priority Aspects of Intervention to Control Antimicrobial Resistance in 5 Regions of Africa

Moderators: Souleymane Mboup, Senegal • Zach Katz, FIND, Geneva

1. What models of success already exist in Africa to control antimicrobial resistance, e.g., national antimicrobial resistance action plans and budget for implementation of those plans?
2. What interventions should be considered to enhance judicious use of antimicrobials in animals raised for food at the national, regional, and continental level?
3. What interventions should be considered to enhance judicious use of antimicrobials in humans at the national, regional, and continental level?
4. What other interventions should be considered to control antimicrobial resistance?
5. How can Africa CDC (and its regional centers) help advance the interventions discussed in #1-#4 above?

Day 2, Group 3: Role of Private Sector in Surveillance, Prevention and Control of Antimicrobial Resistance in Africa

Moderators: Emmanuel Idigbe, NIMR, Nigeria • Naima El Mdaghri

1. What models of success already exist in Africa for private sector collaboration in antimicrobial resistance surveillance, prevention, and control?
2. How can Africa CDC help incorporate private, university, or other non-government laboratories into antimicrobial resistance surveillance?

3. What new technologies should be explored to enhance disease intelligence through laboratories – e.g., operationally-connected lab devices, real-time electronic data gathering and analytics, and information platforms?
4. How can Africa CDC work with the private sector in prevention and control of antimicrobial resistance?

Commented [RTI3]: There are many open source and closed/privileged online clearing houses for event and disease data. Since this RISLAN is proposed around laboratory integration into traditional (?) surveillance networks and platforms (referring to your list above in 1, part A, do you want speakers to talk about the parallel technologies that contain less-structured data)?

Day 2, Group 4: Partnerships in Combatting Antimicrobial Resistance in Africa (GATES Foundation, China CDC, US CDC, JICA, USAID, etc.)

Moderators: Solomon Zewdu, GATES Foundation, Addis Ababa • Ali Elbireer, ASLM

1. What foundations, technical partners, and donors are supporting antimicrobial resistance work in Africa?
2. What common aspects of antimicrobial resistance surveillance, prevention, and control are being supported by these partners?
3. What gap can Africa CDC fill in antimicrobial resistance surveillance, prevention, and control in collaboration with foundations, technical partners, and donors?