



## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

### AMANET WORKSHOP ON PROPOSING AND REPORTING ON INTERVENTION TRIALS FOR AFRICAN RESEARCHERS

#### ***BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION***

Much intervention research has been conducted with Africa, but very little of it originates from African researchers. Part of the reason is that many African researchers have not been sufficiently involved in setting research agenda and research plans; they also have not been engaged in writing competitive research funding proposals for the intervention trials. The failure to originate and obtain funding for research tends to set a vicious circle as funders will generally prefer to finance investigators and institutions with a good track record of handling trial funds, conducting the research appropriately, and producing acceptable financial and technical reports. In this regard, most African scientists will perpetually only participate in trials as co-investigators owing to the lack of the required experience.

AMANET, in its quest to level the playing field in favour of African malaria researchers is now announcing this call for interested research scientists who wish to be equipped with further knowledge and skills in proposing and reporting on intervention trials. The rationale being the need to empower African scientists so that they are able to participate in setting the research agenda for their institutions and communities by proposing trials that are scientifically relevant to their local situation and are able to compete for funding. The format for this workshop consists of formal lecture type presentations, group work/discussions and practical work for each participant to develop a proposal. The highlights to be covered among other relevant subjects include the following:

- Setting research priorities and research agenda
- What are funders interested in
- Scientific question: setting the hypothesis and testing it
- Obtaining background information and literature search
- GCP requirements in intervention trials
- Study design: primary and secondary end points and methodology

- Statistical considerations and sample size calculations
- The role of randomisation and blind coding
- Planning patient enrolment, treatments and follow up
- Protocol preparation for adverse events
- Activity flow charts
- Proposal budgets and justification
- Ethical considerations in a proposal
- Report analytical plans: interim analyses and final analysis
- Writing the final trial report
- CONSORT publishing guidelines
- Dissemination of results
  - Potential funding sources and their requirements
  - Financial reporting

This workshop aims at offering the participants both the theoretical knowledge and practical experience in writing a proposal. Participants will therefore be required to come with their ideas for a proposal which will be developed during the workshop. Experienced facilitators will handle the various subjects and will walk the participants through their proposals to ensure practical learning.

#### *VENUE*

Mount Meru hotel, Arusha, Tanzania.

#### *WHO CAN APPLY*

Middle or senior level physicians and researchers directly involved in the conduct of malaria related studies or trials from African institutions. These need to have their idea of an intervention trial they wish to propose.

#### *TIMING*

The workshop is intended to take five full days scheduled for 12-16 July 2004.

#### *HOW TO APPLY*

Interested persons should submit a complete application, which must include the following:

1. One paged Bio sketch
2. A 1 page summary of the malaria related intervention trial proposal you wish to develop (not more than 100 words);
3. Names and addresses of two referees (including their telephone numbers and email contacts), who you have requested to provide letters of recommendation, to be sent directly to the address below.

**Applications must be received by Friday 11 June, 2004.**

#### *SPONSORSHIP*

Selected applicants will be awarded an AMANET sponsorship which will cover economy class airfares, tuition, ground transport in Tanzania, and full board. AMANET will not meet any visas or transit costs.

Applications preferably sent by e-mail must be directed to:  
The Managing Trustee, AMANET, Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology  
Building, Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road, P O Box 33207, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.  
Tel: + 255-22-2700018, Fax: + 255-22-2700380.  
E-mail: [info@amanet-trust.org](mailto:info@amanet-trust.org); [wlkilama@amanet-trust.org](mailto:wlkilama@amanet-trust.org)  
Website: [www.amanet-trust.org](http://www.amanet-trust.org)