



Go Africa

Strengthening of Neisseria Gonorrhoeae Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Surveillance and Diagnostics in African Partner Countries in the Framework of the WHO Global Action Plan

Duration

2021 – 2022

Budget

approx. 60,000 EUR

Partner countries

Nigeria
Rwanda

Challenges addressed by the project

AMR in Neisseria gonorrhoeae (NG) is a global public health threat. In the WHO African region, 11 million new infections are estimated each year. NG prevention, diagnostics and control remain a great challenge in Africa due to weak and poorly funded STI control programmes, huge data gaps and inadequate access to optimal diagnostics and treatment. Culture and antibiotic susceptibility testing for NG is seldom included in routine patient care in countries like Nigeria and Rwanda and AMR in genital samples has not been studied yet. Reliable diagnostics for NG AMR are essential for targeted treatment and to avoid further emergence of AMR, and an extended surveillance system is crucial for understanding of the situation in Nigeria and Rwanda.

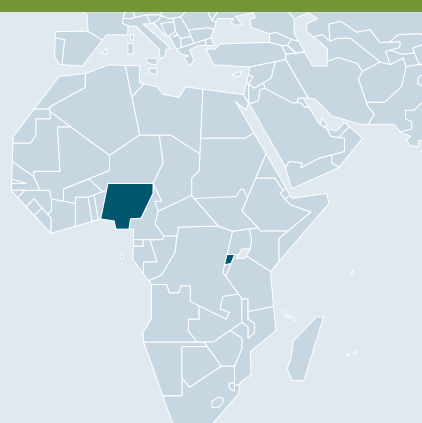
Objectives

This project will set up an international cooperation between Nigeria, Rwanda and Germany in order to strengthen NG AMR surveillance in countries with high NG incidence, thereby promoting WHO's global action plan on AMR.

- » Literature analysis on existing epidemiological data on NG AMR in Nigeria and Rwanda
- » Conducting two workshops to elucidate gaps, needs and solutions with regard to diagnostics and treatment of NG AMR in Nigeria and Rwanda and to appropriate surveillance instruments
- » Compiling of a comprehensive follow-up proposal to establish effective surveillance instruments in Nigeria and Rwanda

Overview of activities

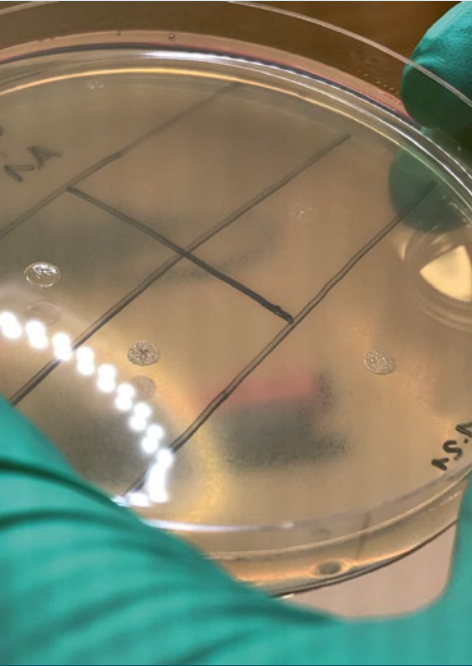
The project Go Africa 2021 aims at promoting WHO's global action plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). National surveillance programmes participating in international data exchange are essential for developing strategies to combat NG AMR locally and globally. In both countries, national policies, regulations and guidelines relating to control, treatment and prevention of STIs and partly AMR exist as an important basis for the planned cooperation. On basis of a literature analysis and during two workshops, experts on STIs, AMR and public health of Nigeria, Rwanda and Germany will assess the current situation of NG AMR in Nigeria and Rwanda in terms of existing diagnostic infrastructure, real-life treatment situation and surveillance and will elucidate important gaps and possible solutions. The



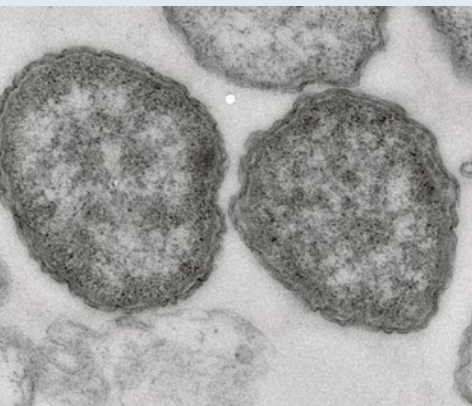
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Diagnosing Neisseria Gonorrhoeae Antimicrobial Resistance



Neisseria gonorrhoeae: Transmission electron microscopy

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findings of the workshops will be used as evidence for a comprehensive follow-up proposal in which specific surveillance and programmatic research activities will be defined. This foundation ensures that gaps, needs and goals are formulated evidence-based and activities for programmatic research and surveillance are feasible.

Partner institutions

- » Rwanda Biomedical Center (RBC)
- » Nigerian Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)
- » WHO Collaborating Centre for Gonorrhoea and Other Sexually Transmitted Infections

Supporting institution in Germany/Contact

Robert Koch Institute
STI/AIDS, STI and Blood-Borne Infections (Unit 34)
Dr Klaus Jansen jansenk@rki.de
www.rki.de/en