

NIMR : A LEGACY OF HEALTH RESEARCH IN TANZANIA 1980- 2015

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Director General

ESTABLISHMENT



- National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) was established by Act of Parliament No 23 of 1979
- It a Parastatal service organization under the Ministry responsible for Health

MANDATE



- **Carrying out medical research**
- **Carrying out research in traditional medicine**
- **Managing health research**
- **Coordinating research**
- **Promoting the use of research findings**

VISON

To be an institution of
excellence for
advancement of health
research and development
in Tanzania and beyond

MISSION

To conduct, coordinate, regulate and
promote scientifically and ethically sound,
high quality health research and deliver
evidence-based information that is
responsive to the needs of human wellbeing

Objective 1:

Governance
structure and
systems for
effective
performance of
the Institute are
in operation

Objective 2

Resources for effective
implementation of the
NIMR strategic plan are
made available

Objective 3:

Health research
regulatory capacity
strengthened

Objective 4:

Health research
carried out

Objective 5:

Utilization of
research
findings
promoted

Objective 6:

Training
programs in
health and allied
sciences
established and
executed

Vision, Mission

Vision

- To be an institution of excellence for advancement of health research and development in Tanzania and beyond

Mission

- To conduct, coordinate, regulate and promote scientifically and ethically sound, high quality health research and deliver evidence-based information that is responsive to the needs of human wellbeing

Core Values

- Integrity
- Accountability
- Unity
- Innovation
- Quality

Organization Structure

- Council - Chair and 13 Council members
- Director General
- Coordinating Directorates:
 - Directorate of Finance, Human Resources and Planning
 - Directorate of Information Technology and Communication
 - Directorate of Research Coordination and Promotion
- NIMR Centres: Centre Directors

RESEARCH CENTRES

- Amani: Malaria-Vector biology, ecology and control
- Mwanza: HIV/AIDS, Reproductive Health, STDs
- Muhimbili: Tuberculosis, HIV, Zoonoses
- Tabora: Human African Trypanosomiasis
- Tanga: Malaria (Clinical Epidemiology; Clinical Trials)
- Mbeya HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis
- Ngongongare – Traditional Medicine
- Tukuyu – Non communicable diseases, Neglected Trop Diseases
- Headquarters
 - Health Systems & Policy
 - Environmental Health
 - Traditional Medicine
 - One Health and Ecohealth

RESEARCH STATIONS

- Korogwe –Malaria Clinical Research
- Handeni - Malaria
- Haydom – Zoonoses, HIV/AIDS
- Kilosa - Malaria
- Gonja -Malaria
- Amani Hill - Malaria

HUMAN RESOURCE

- Total = >1000
- Permanent staff =698
- Research Scientists =177
 - PhD holders= 37
 - MSc/MA = 105
 - BSc/BA = 35
- Laboratory technologists = 45
- Male: Female ration=3:1

Current Research Programs (1)

- Basic and Biomedical research
- Capacity Strengthening Programme
- Clinical and epidemiology research program
- Diagnostics and Laboratory Sciences
- Health Interventions Advocacy and Dissemination
- Health Statistics, Bioinformatics, Information Technology and Documentation
- Health Systems and Policy Research

Current Research Programs (2)



- Non Communicable Disease Research and Control
- One Health and Ecohealth Research
- Parasitic Diseases Research and Control
- Product Development and Evaluation
- Sexual & Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS
- Vector Biology, Ecology & Control
- Environmental Health

LABORATORIES



- Two P2 Level Laboratories - Dar-es-salaam
- One P3 Level Lab in Mwanza - Mwanza Intervention Trials Unit
- One P2 Level Lab - Tanga
- One P3 Level Laboratory - Mbeya: HIV Vaccine Research
- Traditional Medicine Research Laboratory – Dar
- Others: Amani, Korogwe, Tabora, Tukuyu



GCLP COMPLIANT LABORATORIES



- AMBRELA Next to Bombo Hospital has Facilities to Support Clinical Research and Advanced Biomedical and Basic Research
- Korogwe Lab at Korogwe Hospital has Facilities to Support Clinical Research and Drug/Vaccine Trials



Disease Surveillance & Response

- NIMR established the East African Integrated Disease Surveillance Network (EAIDSNet) 2001-2004
- Established and Supports Tanzania National Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response
- Served as member of the GOARN Steering Committee-2001-2004
- NIMR is member of the Epidemic Preparedness Committee and Technical Working Group

Production of Value Added Herbal Drugs (1)



- TMS 2001: Malaria treatment
- Warburgistat: Treatment of

opportunistic infections

- Hepacure: Treatment of herbal disorders
- Persivin: Treatment of prostate hypertrophy in men
- Persican: Treatment of diabetes



Production of Value Added Herbal Drugs



- **Mundex:** Treatment of erectile dysfunction in men
- **NIMREX:** Herbal chest, cold and cough remedy
- **NIMREVIT:** Healthy drink
- **Fukuza Mbu:** Herbal mosquito repellent
- **Kiluwicide:** Mosquito larvicide



National Health Research Priorities (2013-2018)

Social Determinants Health Research Priorities



NIMR

Research areas	Ranking Order
Stigma and discrimination in health	1
Taboos, beliefs and norms	2
Sexual relationships and initiation	3
Child abuse	4
Customs and tradition	5
Violence	6
Gender inequalities	7
Key population	8
Culture (female genital mutilation)	9
Polygamy and extramarital relationships	10
Social bonding/social cohesion	11
Witch craft	12
Socioeconomic status	13
Substance abuse	14



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Health Systems Research Priorities

Research area	Ranking order
Drugs and Medical supplies	1
Human Resource for Health	2
Health Financing	3
Health Services Delivery	4
Reproductive and Child Health	5
Health Information Management	6
Water, Hygiene and Sanitation	7
Health Care Infrastructure	8
Behaviour Change Communication	9
Health Policy and Planning	10
Disaster Management in Health	11
Inter-Sectoral Collaboration	12
Public Private Partnership	13
Specialized Services for Special Groups	14
Decentralization by Devolution	15
Drugs and Medical supplies	16

Biomedical Research Priorities



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Research area	Ranking order
Communicable Diseases	1
Non communicable Diseases	2
Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health	3
Product development and Commercialization	4
Disease Surveillance	5
Climate Change and Environmental Health	6
Food and Nutrition	7
Water, sanitation and hygiene	8
Bioinformatics and Information Technology	9
Traditional and Alternative Medicine	10
Food and medicine safety	11
Occupational health	12
Injuries	13
Substance Abuse	14
Oral Health	15
Geriatrics and Elderly Health Care	16

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Training of Several Scientists to Masters and PhD Levels
- High Retention Rate Over 90%
- Infrastructure Development: High Quality GCLP Compliant Laboratories
- Conducting High Quality Research
- Expansion of Research Agenda
- Focus on “Implementation” Research
- Several Collaborative Programs and Projects

ACHIEVEMENTS



- Formation of the Tanzania Health Research Forum
- Formation of the Health Research Users Trust Fund to Support Evidence Based Research
- Support for Disease Control Programs
- Support for National Integrated Disease Surveillance
- Collaborative Workshops- National and Regional
- Support of Several Regional Networks
- Close Working Relationship with CHMTs
- Capacity Building for CHMTs

Achievements

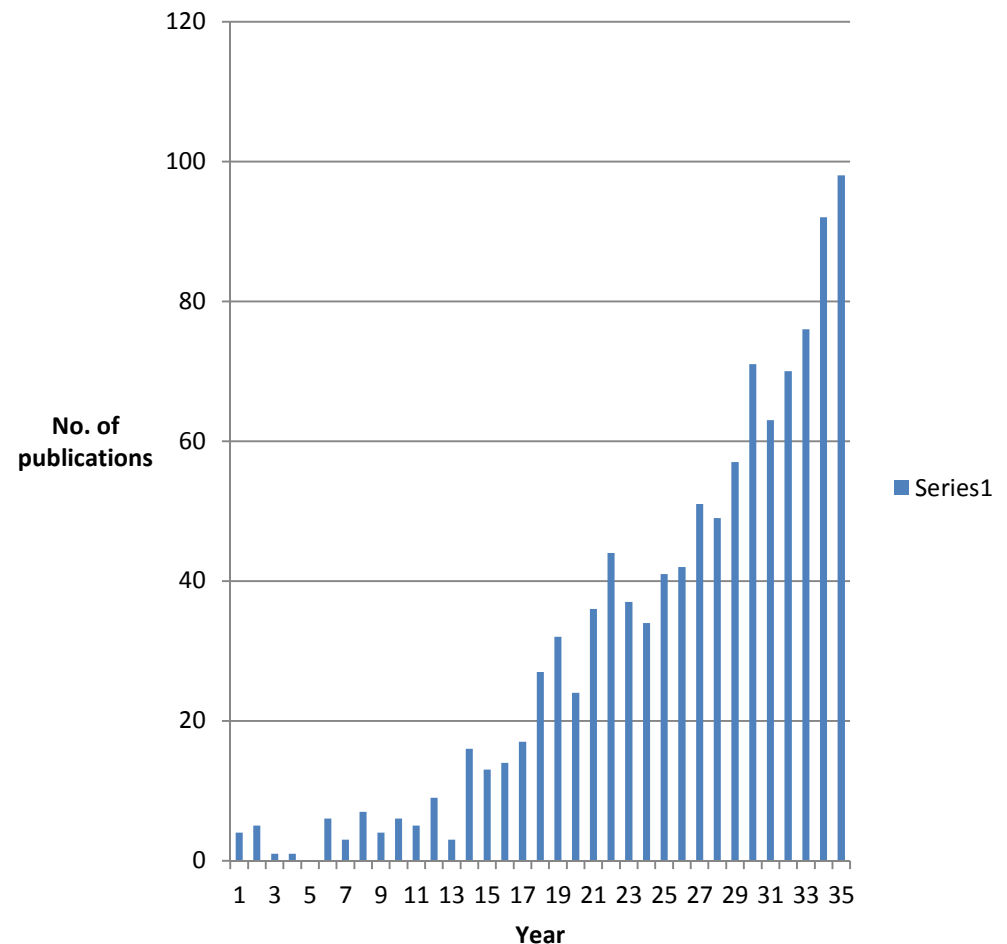


- **Journal:**
 - Tanzania Journal of Health Research (1997)
 - Published quarterly
- **Annual Joint Scientific Conference (1983)**
 - October 13-15, 2015

Journal publications



- **Total articles from January to April 5, 2015= 19**
- **High Journal Impact factor>4:**
- **-Lancet (2): JIF=39.31**
- **-Lancet Infectious Disease (1): JIF=19.44**
- **Bulletin of the World Health Organization (1): JIF=5.49**
- **PLoS Neglected Diseases (1): JIF=4.489**
- **Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy (1): JIF=4.44**



COLLABORATIONS



Internal partners

- Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
- Ifakara Health Institute
- Sokoine University of Agriculture
- African Medical Research Foundation,
- Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences
- Muhimbili Univ. of Health and Allied Sciences
- Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre/KMC College
- East African Community

COLLABORATIONS



External partners:

- Uganda Virus Research Institute,
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- DBL-Centre for Health Research and Development, DK
- University of Copenhagen /CMP, Denmark
- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK
- Centre for International Health, Norway
- Wageningen University and Research Centre, NL
- Duke University, USA/University of Minnesota
- World Health Organization
- University of George Town

CHALLENGES



- **Funding**
- **Human Resource for specialized areas**
- **Infrastructure and equipment**
- **Research translation to policy: Capacity**
- **Dissemination**

OPPORTUNITIES



- Increase in critical mass of researchers
- High retention rate over 90%
- State of the art Laboratories and equipment
- Engaging more actively with institutions of higher learning
- Political will to put research high on the development agenda
- Clinical and Laboratory Research Network
- Established sites for research

H.E President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete of Tanzania



- Recently increased the amount going to research from less the 0.3% to 1% of National GDP



Thank you for listening