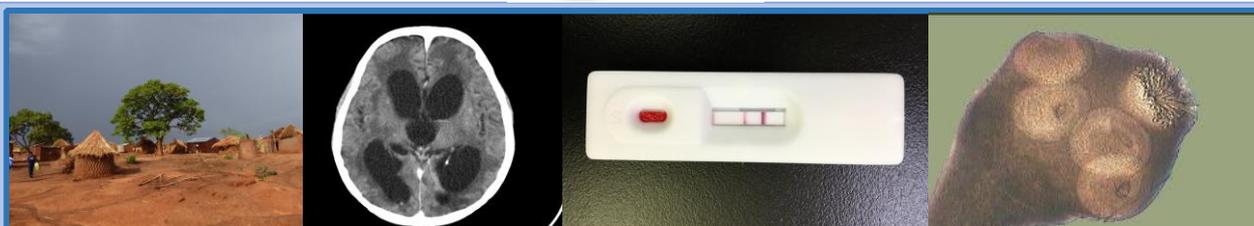


Evaluation of an antibody detecting point-of-care test for the diagnosis of *Taenia solium* taeniasis and (neuro)cysticercosis in communities and primary care settings of highly endemic, resource-poor areas in sub Saharan Africa, including capacity building (September 2016-August 2020)



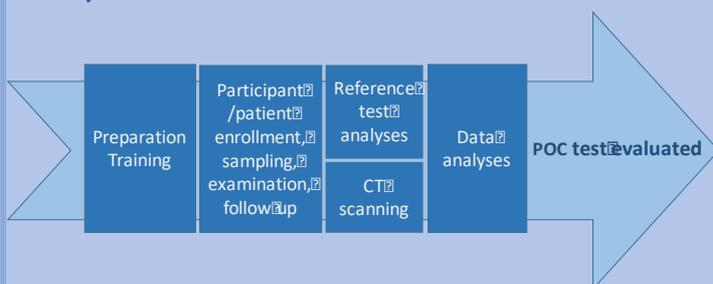
Introduction

Taenia solium taeniasis/cysticercosis (T/CC) is a neglected zoonotic parasitic disease complex with significant economic and public health impacts. Currently, there are no cheap, easy to apply, sensitive and specific diagnostic tools available for the detection of this parasite. The **lateral flow point-of-care (POC) test from CDC Atlanta** that **combines the diagnosis of (neuro)cysticercosis with the diagnosis of taeniasis**, is a very promising candidate, and needs **large scale evaluation** of its performance for early (neuro)cysticercosis case- and tapeworm carrier detection and management.

Objective

The main objective of this project is to **contribute to the implementation of a rapid, cheap and simple POC test for the detection of *T. solium* taeniasis and (neuro)cysticercosis** in two **resource-poor**, highly endemic areas in **sub-Saharan Africa**. The proposed project will therefore field validate the CDC POC test, in Tanzania and Zambia, at community and primary health facility levels. The project also aims to improve the *T. solium* **disease recognition, diagnostic and clinical case management capacities** of these countries as well as their capacity to conduct diagnostic and clinical studies.

Workplan



Year 1: Training and preparation
Year 2-4: Community based (Zambia) and primary health facility level based (Tanzania) field studies will be conducted. CT scans and reference test analyses will be performed to generate the data needed for the POC test evaluation.
Year 4: Data analyses and results dissemination.

Partners

- *Belgium:* Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp (Coordination)(P. Dorny, E. Bottieau, V. Dermauw); Ghent University, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (S. Gabriël, I. Van Damme), Faculty of Sciences (E. Abatih)
- *Germany:* Technical University of Munich, Department of Neurology (V. Schmidt, A. Winkler)
- *Denmark:* University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, (M. Vang Johansen, P. Magnussen); Statens Serum Institut (R. Stensvold)
- *Tanzania:* National Institute for Medical Research, Muhimbili Medical Research Centre (B. Ngowi); Ministry of Health (B. Ndawi); Sokoine University (H. Ngowi)
- *Zambia:* University of Zambia, School of Veterinary Medicine (E.K. Mwape, I.K. Phiri); University Teaching Hospital (C. Chabala, O. Ciccone), Ministry of Health (G. Zulu)

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More information: www.SoliumDx.Ugent.be