

- Monitoring drug quality in the open market
- Malaria morbidity and mortality - cohort .study
- Mapping malaria endemicity
- Mapping insecticide resistance in mosquitoes
- Efficacy of insecticide residual sprays
- Quality of aerosols on the market.
- Cost utility studies of various malaria control interventions.
- Impact of home-based Malaria fever care on health facility based health services,

### 5. Tuberculosis

- Factors influencing delay in T.B. care (delay in the health systems and community).
- Factors influencing access to T.B. care among women in Uganda.
- Evaluation of Directly Observed Therapies (DOTS)
- Cost effective treatment programmes
- TB care among special groups (nomads/ IDP and refugee's),
- Drug resistance survey
- Tuberculin survey

### 6. Other Communicable Diseases

- Control of trypanosomiasis, schistosomiasis and onchocerciasis.
- Control and management of diseases of epidemic potential e.g. plague, cholera and meningococcal meningitis.
- Epidemiology and effective management of diarrhoeal diseases.
- Socio-economic aspects of communicable diseases.

### 7. Non-communicable diseases

- Control and management of endocrine/metabolic diseases (e.g. Diabetes mellitus, Hypertension).
- Epidemiology and management of common mental disorders.
- Trauma and injuries.

- Management and control of sickle cell disease.
- Epidemiology and management of common cancers.
- Management of common disabilities.

### 8. Health Policy and Health Systems Health Policy

- Intersectoral collaboration and coordination mechanism in health care.
- Development of health policy/ review and analysis.
- Health sector reforms
- Alternatives for health care financing.
- Donor impact on health
- Comparative studies on the burden of disease.
- The role and extent of the private sector component of health service delivery.

### Health Systems

- Community Health Information System.
- Improving access and quality of care.
- Effective use of Health Resources.
- Development of interventions to improve Referral Systems.
- Decentralisation as it affects health services.
- The cost to communities of using inefficacious treatment.
- Gaps in equity.
- Cost effectiveness of syndromic approaches to case management versus strengthening diagnostic capacity.

### 9. Drug Use Studies

- Irrational drug use and prescription problems.
- Drug use in the community and self-medication.
- Studies on drug distribution mechanisms.
- Drug resistance studies.
- Drug regulatory mechanism.
- Studies on traditional/herbal medicine and practices.
- Alcohol and other substances of abuse.

# Uganda National Health Research Organisation UNHRO

Research Priorities  
2005 - 2010

## HEALTH RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

### Uganda National Health Research Organisation

Plot 2, Berkeley Lane, Entebbe.  
P.O. Box 465 Entebbe - Uganda.  
Tel./Fax No. 256- 41 - 321766  
Email: unhro@infocom.co.ug

## BACKGROUND (UNHRO and ENHR)

In 1990 Uganda embraced the concept of Essential National Health Research (ENHR) in National development. This concept implies a management strategy in utilisation of health research for development using limited resources.

For Health Research to meet this objective, it is essential that, the researchers, policy makers and communities participate at various stages in the evolution and development of the health research process; i.e. identification of research priorities, development of research proposals, carrying out of research and implementation of research findings.

To support the implementation of health research an indigenous organisation called Uganda National Health Research Organisation (UNHRO) has been formed with a mission of developing, coordinating, promoting and strengthening health research which is essential for the health and development of the people of Uganda.

## FUNCTIONS OF UNHRO

- Evolve and set up an ethical code of conduct for health research in Uganda
- Identify, set and guide the formulation of National Health Research Policies and development of a National Health Research Plan.
- Facilitate consultations with policy and decision-makers, researchers of different disciplines and communities in the identification of health research priorities which are consistent with the National Health Research Plan.
- Facilitate dialogue between the policy makers, researchers of different disciplines, health providers and communities in order to ensure that research is relevant to the needs of the people and that findings are utilised by relevant

stakeholders.

- Strengthen the national health research capacity in research institutions including Ministry of Health and communities and quality human resource infrastructure which is capable of responding to the essential research demands of the country.
- To register, renew and coordinate different types of health research in the country and promote multidisciplinary and intersectoral research collaboration in a bid to establish National Health Research which is consistent with the National Health Plan.

## HEALTH RESEARCH PRIORITIES

Through the process of consultation with senior researchers of different disciplines, senior officials of the Ministry of Health and other relevant Ministries, relevant UN agencies, local and international NGOs and district health management teams, the following priority research areas were identified.

### 1. Water, Sanitation and Environment

- Waste management
- Water supply and use in the community.
- Water purification methods at the household level.
- Latrine coverage
- Impact of industrialisation on environmental health.
- Occupational health.

### 2. Maternal, Child Health and Nutrition

- Community perception and concern about health.
- Patterns of health seeking behaviour.
- Infant mortality and morbidity.
- Maternal mortality and morbidity trends.

- Socio-economic and cultural factors in maternal and child health and nutrition.
- Systems for monitoring the health of pregnant mothers.
- Contraceptive prevalence.
- Reproductive and sexual health of adolescents.
- Adolescent health needs and interventions for promoting adolescent health.
- Improving access and quality of care for Maternal and Child Health/Family Planning Services.
- Studies on street children and orphans.
- Development and assessment of appropriate information, education and communication (IEC) messages for MCH.
- The role of the household in promoting child care.
- Epidemiology of nutritional disorders, intervention and prevention strategies.

### 3. HIV/AIDS

- Strategies for scaling up Voluntary Counselling and Testing.
- Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission
- Vaccine research
- Use of Microbicides
- Gender and AIDS
- Appropriate use of condoms and feasibility of female condoms especially in the rural areas.
- Increased access to anti-retroviral treatment
- Management of HIV/AIDS associated and opportunistic infections
- Traditional regimes which could be used in the control and management of HIV/AIDS
- Improving orphan care and support
- Improving quality of life of persons living with HIV/AIDS
- Basic research on HIV

### 4. Malaria

- Combination therapies
- Compliance to referral