

**H3AFRICA KIDNEY DISEASE RESEARCH NETWORK  
MONTHLY STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING  
January 7, 2026**



**Attendees:** Dr. Dwomoa Adu, Prof. Akinlolu Ojo, Dr. Rulan Parekh, Prof. Ifeoma Ulasi, Prof Bamidele Tayo, Dr. Agwai Imaria, Prof. Muhammed Makusidi, Angelica Allen, Prof. Ogochukwu Okoye, Dr. Yemi Raji, Dr. Jisieke Onuigbo, Tomas Mauricio, Prof. Aliyu Abdu, Prof. Santash Saraf, Prof. Oluwatoyin Amira, Dr. Titi Ilori, Prof. Timothy Olanrewaju

**Regrets:** Dr. Manmak Memven

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**1. Phase II Projects – Sickle Cell Anaemia and Childhood Nephrotic Syndrome-**

- The sickle cell anaemia study DNA samples have been sent to Chicago for genotyping.
- The Material Transfer Agreement (MTA) process for the sickle cell anaemia study is still on course.
- Dr. Adu Dwomoa and Dr. Rulan Parekh will ensure that the MTA for the childhood nephrotic syndrome study is available. The genomic data for the childhood nephrotic syndrome study is anticipated

**2. Cohort Study-**

- Further clarification is required from Dr. Jeff Hodgins regarding the biopsy diagnosis categorized as "others". Angelica Allen will follow up accordingly.
- Dr. Parekh Rulan suggested that a paper examining mortality among Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) patients, focusing on deaths in patients not receiving dialysis versus other causes of death, would be valuable.
- To ensure complete data for the cohort study, all H3Africa clinical sites were reminded to verify the vital status of each participant, whether they are alive or deceased.
- The H3Africa Kano site personnel need to complete the REDCap termination forms for all documented patient deaths and dialysis events at Kano site.

**3. New Grant Proposals-**

- We have recorded measurable progress in the “**Environmental Determinants of CKD**” grant proposal conceptualization and drafting by Prof. Vincent Boima and team members.
- The new grant proposal addressing the genetic determinants of young-onset CKD is well advanced, with much of the content already drafted, and requires only final refinement by Dr. Dwomoa Adu.
- The Childhood Nephrotic Syndrome grant proposal team lead, Dr. Rulan Parekh, reported that data cleaning is currently ongoing to enable

presentation of preliminary findings for a grant application. Genotyping will be a critical element of the proposal and its scientific justification.

- The H3Africa clinical centers that received the missing data report for the childhood nephrotic syndrome study were encouraged to make every effort to complete the outstanding data entries on REDCap.
- The sickle cell anaemia study grant proposal is contingent upon the initial genotyping data currently being generated in Chicago.
- We have approached some individuals and colleagues in the European Union and the United Kingdom to try to get funding for the H3Africa clinical centers.
- Some funding agencies of interest include the Africa Association of Nephrology, the United Kingdom Medical Research Council, the Wellcome Trust, and the National Agency of Health Research.
- Dr. Dwomoa Adu will provide an update on the clinical center budgets for the proposed grants during the next steering committee meeting in February
- Dr. Rulan Parekh has some funding renewal opportunities where H3Africa clinical centers can potentially be funded for the childhood nephrotic syndrome study. More details about the budget will be provided by Dr. Rulan when done.
- The H3AfricaKDRN can apply for grants to the National Institute of Health (NIH).
- The Regeneron/University of Michigan/H3Africa collaboration is another potential funding source for the H3Africa clinical center follow-ups.
- It was agreed that it would be most beneficial for nephrotic syndrome clinical trial sponsors to partner directly with the individual clinical sites being overseen by their coordinating center.

#### **4. Committee and Working Group Reports-**

- The revised manuscript by the Recruitment and Retention Committee has been submitted to Kidney Medicine.
- The manuscript submission for the childhood nephrotic syndrome study requires approval from some members of the committee.
- Professor Akinlolu Ojo reminded members of the steering committee that the publication of papers cannot be overemphasized because it is the symbol of productivity in research, and grants beget publications and vice versa.
- The data working group is still working on the childhood nephrotic syndrome data request from Dr. Rulan Parekh's team and Regeneron.
- Reminder for the H3Africa clinical site investigators to provide availability for meetings with the data management team and their site, as applicable.

## 5. Questions/Comments – H3Africa Steering Committee

- Dr. Dwomoa Adu was congratulated by the H3AfricaKDRN steering committee on his conferment as an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) by His Majesty, King Charles III.
- The H3AfricaKDRN trainees and investigators may request data for manuscript publication. Still, we need to address the issue of the standard analysis file to avoid multiple definitions for the same variables in manuscripts emanating from the consortium.
- Members of the steering committee can explore the data dictionary on the H3AfricaKDRN website before sending data requests.
- Dr. Rulan Parekh will provide an update on the REDCap missing data during the next steering committee meeting.

**Next Monthly Meeting - Wednesday, February 4, 2026.**