

Malaria Consortium's approach to research

**malaria
consortium**
disease control, better health

Click on one of the buttons below to explore a sample of our approach.
Our full approach can be found in the approach paper.



**Scientific
rigour**



Ethics



**Striving for
excellence**



**Translating
knowledge**



**Applying
evidence**



**Promoting
research**

[Click here to learn more about this presentation and the approach paper](#) ►

About the approach papers

This paper describes the scope of Malaria Consortium's research, and sets out the way in which the organisation designs and delivers this area of work.

Research is central to Malaria Consortium's work and essential to improving health and health care delivery. Malaria Consortium conducts research in a range of locations, transmission settings and health systems to develop and test new approaches and products, learn from and improve our projects and programmes, and generate and support the use of good evidence in the delivery of effective health services for the prevention, care and treatment of malaria, neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) and childhood illnesses.

Malaria Consortium's approach papers are a series of internal papers outlining our approach to the key public health areas in which we work. This presentation highlights a selection of topics explored in the full paper.

- ▶ For more information on research, contact Karin Kallander at k.kallander@malariaconsortium.org
- ▶ For more information on the approach papers, contact Kori Cook at k.cook@malariaconsortium.org



- ▶ **Read the full approach paper for more information, including sections on collaboration, research uptake and publication, and shaping the global research agenda**



Scientific rigour

Principle

- ▶ Malaria Consortium values highly scientific rigour in research to guarantee the quality of both the method and results, and the comparability of data with that of other studies.
- ▶ We consider it essential to adapt methods to suit the conditions and target population they will be used for, recognising these have a major influence on the accuracy of data collection.



[Read our full approach to scientific rigour in research](#)

Useful resources

- ▶ [Using theory and formative research to design interventions to improve community health worker motivation, retention and performance in Mozambique and Uganda](#)



Ethics

Principle

- ▶ Malaria Consortium's research is typically conducted in vulnerable populations who may have limited access to health care, and as such, there are particular ethical concerns that must be considered. The integrity and welfare of research participants is of paramount importance, and should be addressed throughout the research process. Malaria Consortium abides by national and international ethical standards in all its work to ensure this happens.
- ▶ At a minimum, all Malaria Consortium's research projects that involve human subjects must be approved by the relevant ethical review committee in each country in which the research is to be conducted. It is also recommended that ethics review should also occur in either the country of the donor, sponsor, or academic lead.



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Striving for excellence

Principle

- ▶ Malaria Consortium applies the highest standards to ensure the credibility and integrity of its research findings. It will only conduct research where it can guarantee capacity to implement the research to a high standard.
- ▶ There are often gaps in the evidence, and new questions inevitably arise in response to emerging problems and changing health needs and priorities. Malaria Consortium works to identify these gaps, and seeks to answer the most pressing questions to inform and improve responses to malaria and NTDs, and promote child health.
- ▶ Combining high quality research and delivering programmes at scale provides the opportunity to test possible solutions in large populations and in real world settings.



Read our full approach to striving for excellence in research

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Translating knowledge

Principle

- ▶ There continues to be a significant gap between research and practice.
- ▶ Malaria Consortium invests in measures to promote the use of evidence by decision makers, and takes practical steps to support the translation of knowledge into policy and practice.
- ▶ By involving decision makers and practitioners from the outset and throughout the research cycle, Malaria Consortium's research agenda is shaped by local needs and priorities, thus ensuring solutions that are feasible and adapted to the local context, and maximising the likelihood that findings will be taken up.



Read our full approach to translating knowledge

Useful resources

- ▶ [Developing Intervention Strategies: innovations to improve community health worker motivation and performance](#)

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Applying evidence

Principle

- ▶ Malaria Consortium's projects and programmes are informed by the most recent evidence, learning and best practices from the field.
- ▶ Malaria Consortium participates in various working groups and networks, and consults with academic and research institutions, NGOs and others, to share experiences, keep up to date with recent developments, and maximise opportunities to link with and learn from current and ongoing research. With more than a decade of experience specialising in malaria, NTDs and child health, and having a knowledge base that combines learning from the field and reviewing the available evidence, Malaria Consortium has a thorough understanding of the issues and challenges in this sector, and the potential solutions that could work at scale.



[Read our full approach to applying evidence](#)

Useful resources

- ▶ [Establishing Village Health Clubs to improve community health worker motivation and performance](#)

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Promoting research

Principle

- ▶ There continue to be significant inequities in health, within as well as between countries, which leave the poor and marginalised disproportionately affected in terms of disease burden. Malaria Consortium advocates for greater investment in research on equity that addresses the needs of those most at risk of malaria, NTDs, and common childhood illnesses, and emphasises the importance of health systems research to explore how existing know-how can be more effectively adapted and applied in different health systems and settings, and in particular to the most vulnerable.
- ▶ As a guiding principle, Malaria Consortium should always evaluate their research and programme investments through an 'equity lens' by examining the extent to which our programmes are pro-poor, and specifically aim for research on approaches that reach the poorest and most marginalised.



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