Taking seasonal malaria chemoprevention to new geographies

SMC with SPAQ* in Mozambique and Uganda is
✓ safe
✓ feasible with high coverage achieved
✓ acceptable in the local context

The next project phase focuses on
• understanding chemoprevention efficacy of SPAQ to clear existing infections/prevent new ones in the context of high parasite resistance
• gathering more robust evidence of effectiveness through randomised controlled trials to inform policy change

It appears to be highly effective
• In non-randomised controlled trials, children in SMC districts were 86% (Mozambique) and 92% (Uganda) less likely to develop clinical malaria during the peak transmission season than those in non-SMC districts

Despite high SP resistance, one annual round of SMC did not have a negative impact on the resistance profile

THE BIGGER PICTURE

Determining areas in east and southern Africa where SMC would be a viable malaria prevention strategy

Exploring alternative SMC drug regimens that could replace SPAQ in the longer term

Understanding infection clearance, infection prevention and disease prevention interface to inform scale-up decisions in the medium term

Understanding changes in SP resistance in symptomatic malaria cases to determine the short-term impact on the resistance profile

This programme is funded through philanthropic donations received as a result of being awarded Top Charity status by GiveWell. The research project in Mozambique is supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.