Clinical Trials Registration in Lebanon Soon

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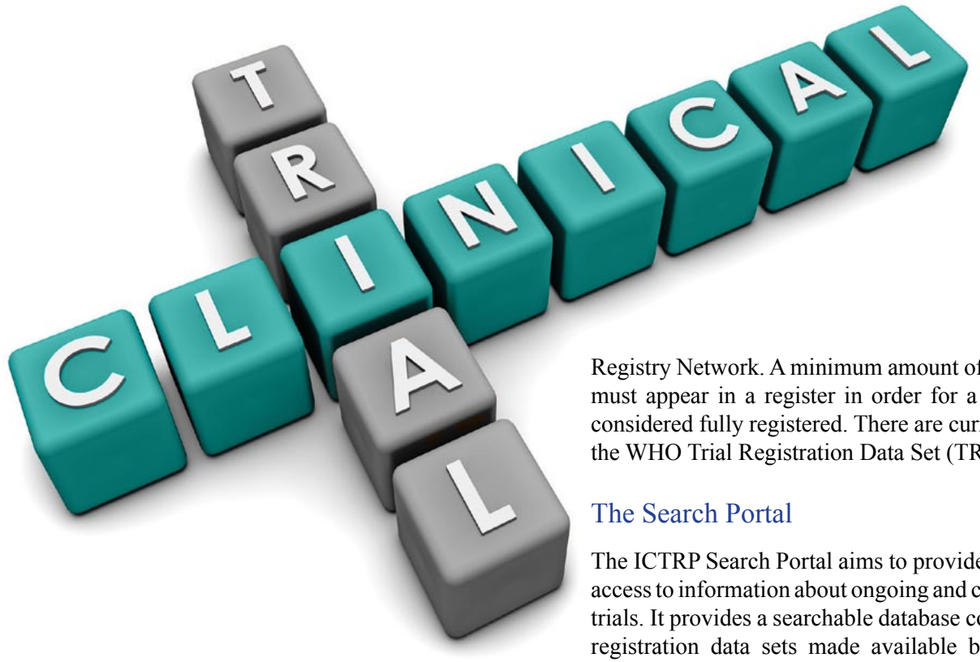
Following the Ministerial Summit on Health Research (1) that took place in Mexico City, Mexico, in November 2004, participants called for the World Health Organization (WHO) to facilitate the establishment of: *"a network of international clinical trials registers to ensure a single point of access and the unambiguous identification of trials"*. This was further expanded on during the 58th World Health Assembly in a resolution that called on the global scientific community, international partners, the private sector, civil society, and other relevant stakeholders to: *"establish a voluntary platform to link clinical trials registers in order to ensure a single point of access and the unambiguous identification of trials with a view to enhancing access to information by patients, families, patient groups and others"*.

The mission of the WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP) is to ensure that a complete view of research is accessible to all those involved in health care decision making (2). This will improve research transparency and will ultimately strengthen the validity and value of the scientific evidence base. Currently The ICTRP network is present in 16 countries (3).

Registry Name	Country	Status
Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Registry (ANZCTR)	Australia & New Zealand	Primary Registry
Brazilian Clinical Trials Registry (ReBec)	Brazil	Primary Registry
Chinese Clinical Trial Registry (ChiCTR)	China	Primary Registry
Clinical Research Information Service (CRiS)	Republic of Korea	Primary Registry
ClinicalTrials.gov	USA	Data Provider
Clinical Trials Registry (CTRI)	India	Primary Registry
Cuban Public Registry of Clinical Trials(RPCEC)	Cuba	Primary Registry
EU Clinical Trials Register (EU-CTR)	European Union	Primary Registry
German Clinical Trials Register (DRKS)	Germany	Primary Registry
Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials (IRCT)	Iran	Primary Registry
ISRCTN.org	United Kingdom	Primary Registry
Japan Primary Registries Network (JPRN)	Japan	Primary Registry
Thai Clinical Trials Registry (TCTR)	Thailand	Primary Registry
The Netherlands National Trial Register (NTR)	The Netherlands	Primary Registry
Pan African Clinical Trial Registry (PACTR)	South Africa	Primary Registry
Sri Lanka Clinical Trials Registry (SLCTR)	Sri Lanka	Primary Registry



What is a Clinical Trial?

According to the World Health Organization, a clinical trial is any research study that prospectively assigns human participants or groups of humans to one or more health-related interventions to evaluate the effects on health outcomes. Clinical trials may also be referred to as interventional trials. Interventions include but are not restricted to drugs, cells and other biological products, surgical procedures, radiologic procedures, devices, behavioural treatments, process-of-care changes, preventive care, etc. This definition includes Phase I to Phase IV trials.

What is Trial Registration?

WHO regards trial registration as the publication of an internationally-agreed set of information about the design, conduct and administration of clinical trials. These details are published on a publicly-accessible website managed by a registry conforming to WHO standards. Any registry that enters clinical trials into its database prospectively (that is, before the first participant is recruited), and meets the WHO Registry Criteria or that is working with ICTRP towards becoming a **Primary Registry** can be part of the WHO Registry Network. A minimum amount of trial information must appear in a register in order for a given trial to be considered fully registered. There are currently 20 items in the WHO Trial Registration Data Set (TRDS) (4).

The Search Portal

The ICTRP Search Portal aims to provide a single point of access to information about ongoing and completed clinical trials. It provides a searchable database containing the trial registration data sets made available by data providers around the world meeting criteria for content and quality control. The ICTRP Search Portal has been developed to make it easier for users to search for clinical trials.

The Aim

The purpose of ICTRP is to increase transparency in research and reduce the knowledge gap in clinical trials happening in low and middle income countries. To achieve this, ICTRP aims for an increase in the number of countries with either their own national clinical trial registry (meeting WHO standards) or an enforceable policy that clinical trials be registered in a Primary Registry in the WHO Registry Network.

Transparent research attracts funded research, and allows patients from the country to participate in the research happening in their country. Besides being an ethical imperative, funded research can open up new opportunities in terms of the type and the scope of a project and the ability to undertake research that is both person and time intensive or is associated with costly infrastructure.

In addition, The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) accepts for publication only the research projects that have been registered in one of the

WHO primary registries or in the national registry of the United States of America ,"Clinicaltrials.gov".(5).

The World Health Organization (WHO) Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR)

Less than 5% of the clinical trials records registered in the ICTRP database come from the Eastern Mediterranean Region(6). There is no registry in any Arabic-speaking country. To address this issue, several efforts have been made by WHO ICTRP and the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office (EMRO). A workshop on clinical trials registration in the region was held in Cairo, Egypt in 2011 to try to identify potential countries for hosting a registry for the WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region.

In 2012, under the leadership of the Director-General of the Lebanese Ministry of Health, a national committee was established in Lebanon. The committee's goals were to regulate the ethics committees and clinical trials in Lebanon and to start a national registry of clinical trials. Several meetings were organized between ICTRP and the office of the Director-General of the Ministry of Health in order to move this forward. **The next step would be the organization of a conference in Beirut to announce the Lebanese registry of clinical trials and to promote clinical trials registration in Lebanon and the Eastern Mediterranean Region.**

Disclaimer

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References

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3. The WHO registry Network http://www.who.int/ictrp/network/primary (Accessed on 28/03/2014)
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6. ICTRP Search Portal http://www.who.int/trialsearch (Accessed on 07/04/2014)

L'Impétigo et ses Symptômes

L'impétigo est l'infection cutanée bactérienne la plus fréquente chez l'enfant. Cette infection est causée par un staphylocoque doré ou par un streptocoque, des germes fréquents au niveau des narines, que les enfants se transmettent par manuportage. L'impétigo est très contagieux et se caractérise le plus souvent par l'apparition rapide de vésicules (= petites cloques d'eau ou de pus) puis de croûtes voire de « bulles » (= grosses cloque d'eau ou de pus) sur la peau du visage et du corps.

Les symptômes

L'impétigo est décrit sous deux formes:
• L'impétigo croûteux. C'est la forme la plus fréquente puisqu'elle concerne 70% des cas. Elle se caractérise par l'apparition de vésicules avec un pourtour inflammatoire (= rouge, sensible et parfois un peu gonflé). Les vésicules se rompent en quelques jours et leur suintement provoque l'apparition de croûtes jaunes comme du miel.

• L'impétigo bulleux. Il est caractérisé par l'apparition de bulles de 1 à 2 cm de diamètre, dont le contenu est purulent. Les bulles se rompent en quelques jours et laissent des zones sans peau, appelées érosions, de la taille de la bulle préexistante, mais ayant tendance à se creuser et s'étendre sur les côtés.