Session 1: 17:35 - 17:50

Challenging with Informed consent in African remote area.



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Short CV

Gaston Tona Lutete is a professor at the University of Kinshasa with a 38-year academic teaching experience and research in Pharmacology.

He hold a PhD degree from catholic University of Louvain (Belgium) since 1981.

He made a significant contribution to the training of PhD students and specialists and has already promoted/Co-promoted three PhD in pharmacology.

Since ten years he is the head of the Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmacovigilance Unit at the University of Kinshasa Faculties of Medecine and Pharmaceuticals Sciences (UPC-PV). He is also the head of the National Pharmacovigilance Center in DR Congo.

With his team, they are conducting several studies in Pharmacovigilance, Clinical trials and rational use of medicines.

In Pharmacovigilance, the implementation of regional center throughout the country, the surveillance of anti malarial drug, MDR-TB, drugs used against tropical neglected disease and vaccine have retained particular attention.

For clinical studies, they are involved in Phases I / II studies of drugs isolated from medicinal plants, Phase III and IV studies for drugs against malaria and other infectious diseases as Ebola and monkey pox, ...

He is member of International society of Pharmacovigilance (ISOP), African society of pharmacovigilance and American Society of Tropical Medicine and hygiene (ASTMH). He has more than 80 scientific publications.

Abstract

Informed consent is a key step in a clinical trial.

In Africa, especially in rural areas, this process is sometimes problematic and confusing situations may be encountered including:

Parent may present a child in place of his or her a relative; Several patient may have similar names; Guardian do not always have legal document for the child under his protection; Child may be under the responsibility of several guardians; Children do not have an identity document; Very few witnesses are available and any individual represents several patients; Local language has different nuances depending on the region;

Reimbursement of expenses even minimal is attractive due to poverty, Inconstancy of patient signature

In many situations, the investigator has to refer to a third person to find an appropriate solution.