

Day 1: 16:10 – 16:25

University of Kinshasa, UPC-PV: Contribution in clinical research in DR Congo



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(Head of Research Center in Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutic. Faculties of Medicine and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Head of the National Pharmacovigilance Center in DR Congo)

Short CV

Dr. Gaston Tona Lutete is a professor at the University of Kinshasa with more than 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 several years he is the head of the Clinical Pharmacology and Pharmacovigilance Unit at the University of Kinshasa Faculties of Medicine and Pharmaceuticals Sciences (UPC-PV : now CRPC) . He is also the head of the National Pharmacovigilance Center in DR Congo.

Studies conducted by our team includes: surveillance of anti malarial drug, MDR-TB, drugs used against tropical neglected diseases and vaccine.

For clinical studies, he is involved in Phases I / II studies, Phase III and IV studies for drugs against malaria and other viral diseases as Ebola and monkey pox,...

Abstract

Our center was created within the Department of Clinical Pharmacology of the Faculties of Medicine and Pharmaceutical Sciences of the University of Kinshasa. Today the UPC/PV has been elevated to the level of a Research Center in Clinical Pharmacology.

Its activities include:

1. Training of researchers and investigators in clinical trials, GCP provided directly by the center and in partnership with the NCGM ,monitoring of clinical trials provided in partnership with Swiss TPH ,Pharmacovigilance provided by the center across the country.
2. The conduct of CLINICAL TRIALS:
 - i) Of drugs and medicinal plant derivatives mainly against malaria, sometimes in collaboration with the CANTAM network),
 - ii) Of viral diseases such as Ebola and Mpox (under the label of INRB.), and recently
 - iii) on a vaccine against Covid-19.

Some studies have been conducted at collaborating sites across the country: Kimpese, Lubumbashi, Kikwit, Kananga with local investigators. The center is functioning as the NATIONAL PHARMACOVIGILANCE CENTER for training in pharmacovigilance; monitoring and reporting of adverse events setting up regional centers; conducting pharmacovigilance studies; maintaining the national database (in the WHO Vigiflow system).

The center is in the process of expanding towards Pharmacogenomics and will benefit from the expertise of external researchers: USA, SWITZERLAND, RSA.

A facility of more than 300 m2 has just been built (80% completed) that will include all activities and will receive researchers for master training. These additional implementations : new facility, master training and new research field will allow the center to fulfill and extend its mission.