

MALARIA AND PANDEMIC PREVENTION\PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE RESEARCH- TERMS OF REFERENCE

ABOUT MALARIA NO MORE UK

Malaria has been described as the oldest killer disease in history. Even now, despite recent progress, it claims the life of a child every minute. Malaria No More UK (MNM UK) brings proven global experience and expertise in advocacy and creative communications to the zero-malaria fight.

2024 will be an important year for the malaria sector as we build towards the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliances' replenishments in 2025. MNM UK is looking to strengthen our evidence base to enable the best chances of securing successful pledges from donor governments, including the UK.

RESEARCH OVERVIEW

For malaria to remain prominent on the global agenda in 2024, it's vital that we connect it to the pandemic prevention, preparedness and response (PPPR) global agenda- an agenda which unites both endemic and donor country leaders and where there is clear political opportunity. We are clear on many elements of overlap between the malaria and PPPR agendas; that most novel diseases are likely to present with fever, and malaria control systems in place means they will be detected sooner, that community health workers who test and treat for malaria also serve as extensions of the formal surveillance system, that supply chains and distribution channels created with donor support in endemic countries create increased readiness to respond to novel pathogen emergence.

This year we expect to see the finalisation and adoption of the Pandemic Treaty and the replenishment of the Pandemic Fund. We also understand PPPR to be a key element of both the Global Fund's and Gavi's investment cases for their upcoming replenishments. As such, we would like to commission two streams of research on malaria and PPPR to better understand the landscape.

The first piece should build upon work started in 2020 when MNM UK together with Malaria No More and the UN Foundation [commissioned research into why investing in malaria is investing in pandemic preparedness and produced a series of policy recommendations](#). Research is needed now to update key analysis around the number of fevers that go unresolved and how far the recommendations have been implemented. Additionally, MNM UK would like to better understand to what extent the new initiatives (the Pandemic Treaty and Fund) impact the global malaria fight.

Together, these pieces of research will be used to inform our understanding and strengthen our arguments around how and why investing in malaria supports broader PPPR efforts, ahead of the Global Fund and Gavi replenishments. This will in turn bolster our ability to call on governments to invest in the global malaria fight.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES FOR EACH RESEARCH STREAM

1. Update previous research and assess implementation of 'Leave No Fever Undiagnosed' recommendations:
 - a. To strengthen arguments on why investing in malaria contributes to PPPR directly and indirectly.
 - b. To generate a media-worthy story that can be used to drive attention towards the Global Fund and Gavi Replenishments.

2. Review the impact and implications of the new PPPR initiatives, the Pandemic Treaty and Pandemic Fund on the global malaria fight:
 - a. To support resource mobilisation for malaria from the Pandemic Fund and connect malaria in to the wider PPPR landscape.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS FOR EACH RESEARCH STREAM

1. Update previous research and assess implementation of 'Leave No Fever Undiagnosed' recommendations:
 - a. Does evidence in support of assertions in original report still represent up to date research? Is there evidence to back existing claims, and/or create new assertions and arguments?
 - b. What percentage of children under 5 seek diagnosis/treatment in malaria endemic countries? How has this changed over time?
 - c. How do malaria programmes support PPPR?
 - d. How could a reduced malaria burden of malaria support PPPR?
 - e. How are surveillance systems for malaria supporting the detection of other diseases?
 - f. How many fevers have community health workers tested over the last 10 years?
 - g. How are health systems expanding to meet the needs of the most disadvantaged and those at risk of malaria?
 - i. Who is funding this expansion?
 - ii. How well do these initiatives address the vital role malaria programming can play in building capacity?
 - iii. How successful are they?

2. Review the impact and implications of the new PPPR initiatives, the Pandemic Treaty and Pandemic Fund on the global malaria fight:
 - a. Does the Pandemic Treaty mention/address malaria?
 - b. In what ways could the Pandemic Treaty go further to address malaria? How could it be influenced or strengthened with respect to malaria?
 - c. Has the Pandemic Fund disbursed funding to malaria programmes? How could it be used to better address malaria?
 - d. What is the make up of applications to the Pandemic Fund, is malaria represented as an area for investment?
 - e. How do the eligibility and allocation principles impact how the Fund can help further malaria control and elimination efforts?
 - f. How is the Pandemic complementing existing health systems strengthening investments and/or the work of other global health institutions investing in malaria?

SUGGESTED METHODOLOGY FOR EACH RESEARCH STREAM

1. Update previous research and assess implementation of 'Leave No Fever Undiagnosed' recommendations:

Mixed methods approach:

- Use the most recent malaria indicator surveys available for endemic countries. Analyse the following question at a country level and average for regional level:
 - Care seeking for children under age 5 with a fever: Percentage of children under age 5 with a fever in the 2 weeks before the survey for whom advice or treatment was sought from a health care provider, health facility, or pharmacy .
 - Analysis of associated questions (including questions designed to assess parents' initial behaviour and response to fever in children, characteristics and trends over time). Example can be found here: [MIS42.pdf \(dhsprogram.com\)](#).
- Literature review and qualitative interviews to examine other research questions and recommendations.

2. Review the impact and implications of the new PPPR initiatives, the Pandemic Treaty and Pandemic Fund on the global malaria fight:

Mixed methods approach:

- Desk based literature review.
- Qualitative interviews.

EXPECTED DELIVERABLES FOR EACH RESEARCH STREAM

1. Update previous research and assess implementation of ‘Leave No Fever Undiagnosed’ recommendations:
 - a. Report
 - b. Analysis for global media story

2. Review the impact and implications of the new PPPR initiatives, the Pandemic Treaty and Pandemic Fund on the global malaria fight:
 - a. Briefing

ANTICIPATED TIMEFRAME

It is expected that final products would be delivered by June 2024 (with the briefing on malaria and the PPPR initiatives due in May ahead of the World Health Assembly and the report with updated research and assessed implementation of previous recommendations alongside analysis for global media story delivered ahead of the G7 leaders summit and/or the Gavi Investment Case launch).

Work on research streams to be conducted concurrently where appropriate but please note deadlines above.

Phase	Activity	Expected Timeframe (weeks)
Inception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kick off meeting with MNM UK • Agreement on scope and research methodology for both research streams 	1
Literature review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desk based research for both research streams 	3
In-depth interviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree interview questions and conduct interviews for both research streams 	3
Analysis and briefing/report development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synthesise evidence for both research streams • Draft report • Write up analysis to underpin media story (tbc to be included in report) • Draft briefing 	2
Completion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final documents presented and completion meeting with MNM UK 	1
Total		10

RESEARCH OVERSIGHT

The consultancy will be overseen by MNMUK, led by the Head of Strategy and Policy. An internal Research and Narratives project group will be tasked with approving and

reviewing all deliverables. In addition to oversight, MNMUK will extend the following support to the consultancy:

- Providing names and contact details for external stakeholders and organisations
- Reviewing all deliverables and providing feedback before sign offs

SELECTION CRITERIA

MNMUK invites applications from consultancies and research organisations with relevant experience and expertise to undertake the assignment. The general criteria for selecting the firm include:

- Extensive experience in undertaking similar research globally
- Strong understanding of the PPPR agenda
- Organisational, analytical and communication skills (verbal and written)
- Fluency in English (verbal and written)
- Previous research experience in the field of malaria (preferred)
- African-based research organisation/consultancy (preferred)

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SUBMISSION

Please submit EOI to Lottie.renwick@malariaanomore.org.uk to include proposal and CV by Wednesday 27th March. If desired, please share examples of previous relevant work.

Please note that EOIs will be reviewed on a rolling basis so selection may be made prior to the deadline.