

## STATUS OF THE EMBLEM STUDY IN KENYA

THE EMBLEM KENYA TEAM  
(Dr. Constance N. Tenge)



- Background of BL in Kenya
- Ethical and Research clearance
- Determination of regions and Health Facilities for the Study
- Current staffing
- Laboratory facilities
- Status of EMBLEM activities
- Case and control enrollment goals and status
- Current Challenges and Resolutions



## Background of BL in Kenya

BL Belt/ Malaria endemic region.

Organized treatment for childhood cancers

- Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH)
- New Nyanza Provincial General Hospital (NNPGH)
- Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH)
- **Homa Bay District Hospital**
- **Webuye District Hospital**

Research activities on BL – on going

EMBLEM study – Epidemiological Study

Historical Data - 1200 BL cases ( 2000 – 2011)



Eldoret and Nyanza BL Characteristics by Age\_group

Variable	Age group								Total
	0-4		5-9		10-15		16+		
Sex	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Female	78	16.7	155	33.3	86	18.5	147	31.6	466
Male	121	16.4	282	38.3	121	16.4	212	28.8	736
Region									
Eldoret	69	11.7	84	14.3	77	13.1	359	61.0	589
Nyanza	130	21.2	353	57.6	130	21.2	0	0	613
Calendar year									
1999	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100.0	1
2001	6	12.0	7	14.0	5	10.0	32	64.0	50
2002	6	11.8	5	9.8	6	11.8	34	66.7	51
2003	19	16.5	58	50.4	15	13.0	23	20.0	115
2004	26	22.8	49	43.0	19	16.7	20	15.5	114
2005	26	17.7	60	40.8	30	20.4	31	21.1	147
2006	24	19.4	57	46.0	20	16.1	23	18.5	124
2007	34	18.8	77	42.5	24	13.3	46	25.4	181
2008	23	15.2	52	34.4	34	22.5	42	27.8	151
2009	14	11.0	35	27.6	23	18.1	55	43.3	127
2010	14	12.2	25	21.7	24	20.9	52	45.2	115
2011	7	26.9	12	46.2	7	26.9	0	0	26



## Ethical and Research Clearance

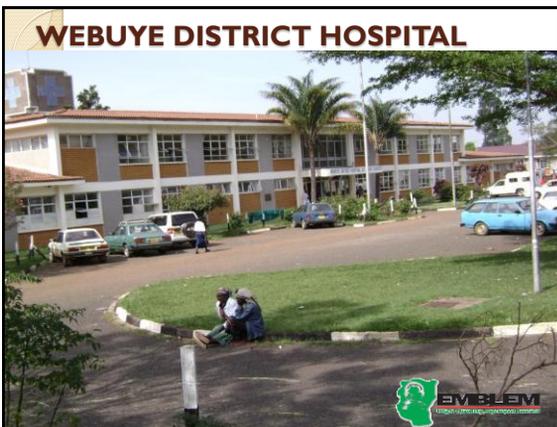
- Initial Proposal/Protocol from NCI
- Modification to fit in the Health Facility stratification in Kenya.
- Institutional Research Board (IRB)
  - National Council of Science and Technology (NCST)
  - Institutional Research Ethics Committee (IREC- MUSHS/MTRH)(Moi University College of Health Sciences and Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital )
- Formal Approvals – Yearly
  - 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> March 2011
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> March 2012
  - Subsequent ones – Yearly



## Determination of Regions and Health Facilities for the Study

- BL Belt/Hot spots for BL cases.
- Approved proposals and Amendments.
  - Western Kenya Region
    - Nyanza Province
    - Western Province
    - Rift Valley
- Consent/ Acceptance by the Hospital Management
- Accessibility for Patients, Relatives and field research activities in the Western Kenya region
- Appropriate Medical staff
  - Paediatrician and relevant staff





## Certificates being awarded after Training on SOPs



## Current Staffing

- Co-investigator – 5  
Paediatrician (Team Leader), Nursing Officer (Study Co-ordinator), Senior Research Scientist, Paediatric Surgeon, Pathologist
- EMBLEM Staff  
Nursing Officer – 1, Laboratory Technologists – 2, Research/Office Assistants – 3



Prof. Joloba with EMBLEM Kenya Team at the Webuye District Hospital

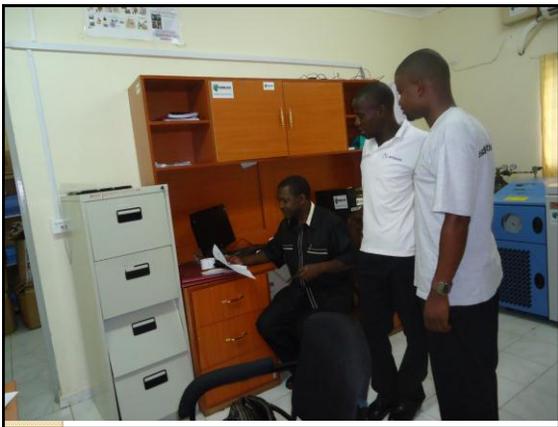
- Hospital Staff  
Health Management Team  
Medical superintendent, Nurse Manager, Laboratory in Charge, Public Health Officer, Biomedical Engineer  
Paediatric Department  
Paediatrician, Nursing officer-in-charge
- Community Staff  
CAB – Community Advisory Board – 6  
CHW – Community Health Workers



## Laboratory Facilities

- Two Research Sites (HomaBay DH + Webuye DH)
- Webuye Research Lab – on hold
- HomaBay Research Site – Functional
  - Deep Freezer
  - Safety Hood
  - Centrifuge
  - QBC analyzer
  - Microscopes
  - Laboratory Supplies
  - Forms
- Back up Systems for the Deep Freezer
  - Two Carbon Dioxide Cylinders
  - Connection to the Hospital Generator
  - MSF Generator
- Discussions ongoing with KEMRI/CDC Kisumu and AMPATH







## Status of EMBLEM Kenya Activities

### Informing Key Persons/Institutions

- MU/MTRH
  - Principal, CHS
  - Dean, SOM
  - Director, MTRH
  - Programme Manager, AMPATH
- KEMRI/CDC
  - Director KEMRI
  - Director CDC
- Ministry of Health – MOMS/MOPHS
  - Assistant Director of Medical Services
  - Provincial Director of Medical Services- PHMT
- Health Facilities
  - HMT – Medical Superintendent
  - Nurse Manager
  - Laboratory Manager
  - Public Health Officer



- Community Mobilization
  - Purpose – To educate communities on BL, its presentation, research and availability of treatment.
  - Health Facility Communities
    - Health Care Providers(Consultants, Registrars, Medical Officers, Clinicians, Nurses, Public Health Officers, etc)
  - Village Settled Communities
    - CAB – 6 (2 Meetings)
    - CHW, Community opinion leaders, Spiritual leaders and Administration.
- Posters and EMBLEM Spotter Cards distributed








**Have you spotted a patient with Burkitt Lymphoma?**

Please inform EMBLEM staff immediately



**BL symptoms in a child <16 years includes swelling of:**

- The face involving the jaws, (which may be accompanied with loosening of teeth or teeth falling out),
- The eye, or
- The abdomen

**If you see a child with these symptoms, PLEASE CALL**

**053 2032006 OR 059 21 003**

DR. CONSTANCE TENGE +254-722 088034 PAMELA WERE +254-722 838869

**Immediately!**

## EMBLEM Spotter Card

**Details of person/Hospital Referring**

Name of person Referring: \_\_\_\_\_

District: \_\_\_\_\_

Health Unit (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Details of child and guardian referred**

Name of Child Referred: \_\_\_\_\_

Age of Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex of Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (DD/MM/YYYY)

District and Village: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Guardian's names: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Email (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

**Have you spotted patient with Burkitt Lymphoma?**



Swollen face



Loose teeth



Swollen eyes



Swollen abdomen



Swollen testicles

PLEASE INFORM EMBLEM STAFF IMMEDIATELY

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+254-722 838869

THE CHILD WILL GET TREATMENT FROM





Epidemiology of Burkitt's Lymphoma in East African Children & Minor

059 21003 or 053 2032006



## Case Enrollment Goals and Status

### Goals

- Spot all BL cases in Western Kenya within the specified time.
- Enroll all eligible cases.
- Ensure all BL cases receive appropriate treatment.
- Enroll specified matched controls as stipulated in the protocols.



### Status

- 14/09/2012
- Spotted – 86
- BL Cases – 22
- Eligible and Enrolled – 14
- Samples collected, processed and stored
- 183(Plasma-56, Buffy coat-28, RBC-28, Saliva-44, Slides-14, Tissue blocks-13)



### Current Challenges and Resolutions

1. C – Environment that is not research intensive  
R – Setting up research infrastructure  
– Facilitate research and build capacity for clinical care for cancer
2. C – Research Experience  
R – Training, Consultations, Supervision and Mentorship  
– Use of SOPs provided by NCI
3. C – Diagnostic Challenges  
R – Up-grading the Laboratory services  
– Involvement of required specialists



4. C – Supervisory Challenges  
R – Travel to sites, Communication Channels (Teleconferences, Telephones, E-mail, Skype, etc)
5. C – Community perception and Knowledge of Cancer and BL  
R – Community Mobilization efforts with involvement of the public Health Department, Community Advisory Board (CAB) and Community Health Workers (CHW)
6. C – Health Care Disparities and Economic Disadvantages  
R – Support for patients – Patient support fund, OGRA Foundation, NHIF



7. C – Disease Burden  
R – Providing Services beyond BL and also getting support for patients (Community service)
8. C – Competition – Other projects and competing interests  
R – Discussing and Partnering  
– Discipline and professionalism  
– Striking a balance
9. C – Processes and Procedures  
– Institutional procedures, Ethical issues, Tax exemption on donated medical equipment  
R – Respecting institutional and official procedures
10. C – Unmet/Unfulfilled needs  
R – Fostering understanding, Providing required guidance and working out solutions

