African Access Initiative (AAI)

African Consortium for Cancer Clinical Trials (AC³T)

Highlights
Under the purview of AAI, BVGH launched the African Consortium for Cancer Clinical Trials (AC³T) to foster and implement cancer clinical trials led by investigators in Africa. AC³T is designed to build clinical trial capacity and address the cancer data gap in Africa while increasing access to prioritized cancer diagnostics, medicines, and quality treatment for African patients.

**AC³T Goals**

- Increase access to new and established cancer medicines and technologies through clinical trials
- Address the cancer data gap in African ethnicities
- Galvanize support for African investigator-initiated cancer clinical trials at “ready now” cancer centers and hospitals
- Build clinical trial capacity in “ready soon” cancer centers and hospitals

**Kickoff in Kigali**

AAI partners and global health leaders gather in Kigali, Rwanda, to launch AC³T.
AAI & AC³T Milestones

Feb 2016
AAI concept presented to UN High-Level Panel on Access to Medicines

Early 2017
AORTIC, IFPMA/Access Accelerated, Pfizer, and Takeda join AAI

June 2017
AAI launched at BIO International Convention

Mid 2017
Country-specific strategies planned with Ministers of Health and AAI hospital leadership

Nov 2017
AC³T launched at AORTIC International Conference

Feb 2018
Laboratory equipment placed at Nigerian hospital

Early 2018
AAI needs assessments analyzed and custom drug reports shared

May 2018
AC³T clinical trials readiness assessment implemented

June 2018
AAI/AC³T events held at BIO Convention

July 2018
Capacity building fellowships initiated

Aug 2018
AC³T request for interest (RFI) launched

By Africa, for Africa

Needs Assessments
AAI Hospital Needs Assessments ensure that AAI and AC³T are driven by Africa, for Africa by generating country-level data on cancer burden and current practices, treatment gaps, capacity building needs, and technology and drug priorities.

AC³T Checklist
AC³T Checklists assess a hospital’s cancer clinical trial infrastructure, experience, and “readiness.”

Mapping Capacity
Data gathered from completed Needs Assessments and AC³T Checklists map hospital capacity and define AAI and AC³T priorities.
AAI Hospital Needs Assessment and AC³T Checklist Summary

AAI/AC³T Countries

Top 5 Cancers

Diagnostic Equipment Priorities

- Fume/tissue culture hood
- Incubator
- Microscope
- Microtome
- Spectrophotometer
- Water bath
- Flow cytometer
- PCR & RT-PCR machines

Oncology Team Human Resource Gaps

- Diagnostic pathology
- Radiotherapy
- Oncology nursing
- Oncology pharmacy
- Oncology surgery
- Pediatric oncology
- Biostatistician
- Epidemiologist

Oncology Clinical Trials in Africa**

Cancers Studied

- Breast (7)
- Cervical (4)
- Gastric (1)
- Head & Neck (1)
- Leukemia/Lymphoma (9)
- Ovarian (1)
- Renal (1)

Trial Sponsors (excluding Academic)

- ANZ Breast Cancer Trials Group: 2
- Breast Cancer Research Foundation: 2
- International Breast Cancer Study Group: 1
- International Society of Pediatric Oncology: 1
- National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project: 1
- NIH/FIC/NCI: 5
- Novartis: 1
- Pfizer: 1
- Roche: 2
- Sanofi: 1
- Spanish Breast Cancer Research Group: 1

Cancer Medicines Studied

- Anthracycline (undisclosed): 1
- Capecitabine: 3
- Cyclophosphamide: 1
- Docetaxel: 2
- Epirubicin: 2
- Fluorouracil: 1
- Methotrexate: 1
- Paclitaxel: 1
- Taxane (undisclosed): 1
- Epirubicin: 2
- Capecitabine: 3
- Cyclophosphamide: 1
- Docetaxel: 2
- Epirubicin: 2
- Anthracycline: 1
- Capecitabine: 3
- Cyclophosphamide: 1
- Docetaxel: 2
- Epirubicin: 2
- Anthracycline: 1
- Capecitabine: 3
- Cyclophosphamide: 1
- Docetaxel: 2
- Epirubicin: 2

AAI Hospitals’ Clinical Trial Capabilities

- GCP Certifications
- Quality Assurance
- Protocol Development
- Pharmacology
- Logistics
- Finance Management
- Ethics/Regulatory Affairs
- Data Management
- Data Analysis
- Clinical Trial Management

Percentage of AAI Hospitals with Capability

Trial Site Locations

- Ghana (2)
- Côte d’Ivoire (1)
- Nigeria (9)
- Cameroon (11)
- Ethiopia (1***)
- Uganda (4)
- Kenya (5)
- Tanzania (1)
- Malawi (7)
- Zimbabwe (2)
- Botswana (1)

Trial Phases

- Phase I: 2
- Phase II: 17
- Phase III: 3
- Phase IV: 1

**sub-Saharan Africa, excluding South Africa
***# of clinical trials conducted in country
Needs Assessments Drive AAI and AC³T Activities

Strengthening Diagnostic Laboratories

Nigeria’s Federal Medical Center is enhancing its diagnostic pathology laboratory with five high-value instruments donated by Pfizer.

The pathology laboratory at the University Teaching Hospital of Kigali in Rwanda is advancing towards the achievement of international accreditation with the support of Merck & Co., Inc. experts.

Building Clinical Oncology and Research

Cameroon’s Bonassama District Hospital is augmenting its breast cancer surgery and hematology capabilities with training from Henry Ford Health System and Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences experts.

Côte d’Ivoire is addressing the high burden of prostate cancer in Africa through its participation in the Men of African Descent and Carcinoma of the Prostate Consortium.

Moi Teaching & Referral Hospital in Kenya is increasing its cancer clinical trials site appeal with the guidance of Merck & Co., Inc. experts.

AAI Activities in Development

Oncology Surgery:
Oncology surgery fellowships and observerships for general surgeons in Kenya, Nigeria, and Rwanda.

Radiology & Radiotherapy:

Cancer Research:
Prostate cancer research project in Rwanda.

Diagnostic Pathology:
Disease-specific biopsy and diagnostic pathology training in Côte d’Ivoire, Kenya, and Nigeria.

Oncology Nursing:
Didactic and hands-on training of general nurses in oncology nursing.

Clinical Oncology Certifications:
Comprehensive didactic and hands-on training programs culminating in certifications from accredited institutes and universities.

Clinical Oncology:
Disease-specific and multidisciplinary clinical oncology workshop and tumor boards in Côte d’Ivoire and Rwanda.
Communications Snapshot

Africa’s Emerging Cancer Crisis: A Call to Action
AAI white paper asserts need for cancer clinical trials in Africa

AAI Video
Partners and stakeholders speak to AAI and AC³T priorities

Press Release
“BVGH’s African Access Initiative Expands to Rwanda”

Nigeria’s National Cancer Control Plan (NCCP) Launch
At the invitation of the Minister of Health, BVGH presented AAI and AC³T

Press Release
“Cancer Crisis in Africa Prompts BVGH’s New African Access Initiative”

Arise News and THISDAY
Nigerian media showcases AAI and AC³T

Press Release
“Breast Cancer More Aggressive, Deadlier in African Women than Caucasian Women”

Press Release
“International Drug Companies Join BVGH to Tackle Cancer Crisis in Africa”

Devex Q&A
AAI’s unique approach to Africa’s cancer crisis described

Thank you to our AAI and AC³T Partners