

CLIMADE AFRICA WORKING GROUP MEETING MINUTES – WEEK

Host: Centre for Epidemic Response and Innovation (CERI)

Date: August 1, 2023,

Time: 12:00 – 13:00 p.m. (SAST)

Facilitators: Dr Houriiyah Tegally and Dr Monika Moir

Attendance/ No. of Participants: 52

Start time: 12:04p.m. (SAST)

Purpose of the meeting

Understanding the persistence vs introduction of Dengue in Africa

- Concept behind methods and analysis
- Prelim results

Agenda Items

1. Welcome
2. Presentation and discussion led by Dr Houriiyah Tegally
3. Questions and Discussion

Discussion points and questions

Aims & obj – objective 2

- Modelled risks of importation from case and travel data
- Phylogenetics inferred transmission dynamics, Bayesian Discrete Phylogeography

What happens after the virus is introduced into African countries?

- Untangling introductions and persistence in COVID-19 (Lemey et al; nature; 2021); analytical framework
- Persistence vs introductions summarizer
- Summary of methods (BEAST), Markov jumps, etc.

Can we apply this to Dengue?

- Denv2 prelim results, 2014-2016, Bayesian Discrete Phylogeography

In progress (what Ceri is doing)

Questions:

Wolfgang – would you be able to take into account the season and its effects on transmission potential? Is there a way to incorporate into models?

Answered by Houriiyah

Bernard – is it possible to check through molecular clocking the origin of particular isolates, to gain more information?

Answered by Houriiyah

Eduan - Summary of the benefits from this analysis in public health

Answered by Houriiyah

Domuoyo – do you think populations naivety (from serosurvey data) should be factored in when modelling transmission potential for DENV2?

Answered by Houriiyah

Adjournment and Closing points.

1. Dr Monika Moir adjourned the meeting at 12:46 p.m. (SAST).

Next Meeting

Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 12:00 – 13:00 p.m. (SAST)

Next meeting on arboviruses by local researcher (awaiting confirmation).

Submitted by: Akhil Maharaj

Approved By: Monika Moir