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**From:** Vaccine Impact Modelling Consortium  
**Sent:** 11 August 2017 14:15  
**Subject:** Vaccine Impact Modelling Consortium Newsletter - August 2017

Vaccine Impact Modelling Consortium Newsletter - August 2017



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Dear all,

This is the first newsletter of the Vaccine Impact Modelling Consortium, for all Consortium members and affiliates. Read on to find out about:

- [Disease experts](#) - can you suggest some?
- How to apply for [travel funds](#)
- Montagu and [upcoming dates for modellers](#)
- Our new [website and Twitter](#)
- How you can help keep our [publications list](#) up-to-date
- Our recent [Scientific Advisory Board](#) meeting
- [New members](#)
- [Upcoming surveys](#)

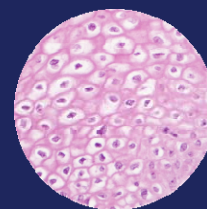
We're aiming to send this newsletter quarterly, and hope you will find it useful. If you have any input for future editions, please let us know.

Wishing you great summer holidays,  
*VIMC secretariat*

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## Can you suggest some disease experts?

We're now developing a set of model quality standards. This will be used as criteria for annual model evaluation and will serve as a baseline when setting model development targets for future years.



Based on feedback from modellers and the Scientific Advisory Board, these criteria will need to include disease-specific requirements, in order to ensure fair model evaluation. We'll be gathering input from clinical and epidemiological disease experts in the near future to inform these model standards.

**Please send us your suggestions for experts for specific disease areas by [completing this form](#).**

We'll give you the opportunity to comment on the proposed model review process in early September.



## Travel funds available for modellers

We have some [travel funds](#) available to facilitate cross-Consortium collaboration and enhance travel opportunities to relevant academic conferences and events.

To apply for these, please send an informal request and justification to [vimc@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:vimc@imperial.ac.uk). Funds are limited and available on a first-come-first-served basis.

## Montagu and upcoming dates for modellers

As set out in the scope of work (in your contract), all modellers will need to upload a 'test run' of estimates for five countries by 30 September (Pakistan, India, Nigeria, Ethiopia, and DRC).

Our technical team is now finalising the Consortium delivery platform, Montagu. We'll send you log-in details in late August, so you can download the standardized demographic and coverage data required as model inputs for the test runs.

The technical team will run two webinar-type 'help calls' in September to go through any questions about the format of the download data or interacting with Montagu.

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**23 August** - demographic data available for download from Montagu

**6 September** - 'Help call' with secretariat technical team

**20 September** - 'Help call' with secretariat technical team

**30 September** - 'Test run' of estimates for five countries due for upload to Montagu




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## Website & Twitter

The Consortium website and Twitter are now live.

Please follow us [@vaccineimpact](https://twitter.com/vaccineimpact) and visit [www.vaccineimpact.org](http://www.vaccineimpact.org)



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## About us

The Vaccine Impact Modelling Consortium coordinates the work of several [research groups](#) modelling the impact of vaccination programmes worldwide.

The Consortium was established at the end of 2016 for a period of five years, and is currently coordinated by [secretariat](#) based at [Imperial College London](#).

As its core objective, the Consortium aims to deliver more sustainable, efficient, and transparent approach to generating disease burden and vaccine impact estimates. Furthermore, the Consortium will work on aggregating the estimates across a portfolio of ten vaccine-preventable diseases and further advancing the research agenda in the field of vaccine impact modelling.

The Consortium is funded by [Gavi](#), the [Vaccine Alliance](#) and the [Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#), and the data generated by the Consortium will support the evaluation of the two organisations' existing vaccination programmes, and inform potential future investments and vaccine scale-up opportunities.

## Latest News

### Travel funds for modelling groups

Posted on July 26, 2017

The Consortium secretariat is pleased to announce availability of limited travel funds to facilitate cross-Consortium... [\[Read More\]](#)

### Tweets

by @vaccineimpact

[VIMC @vaccineimpact](#)  
Data quality is key in measuring vaccine impact accurately, better data also leads to better decisions and health outcomes [@BIDInitiative](#)  
Aug 4, 2017  
VIMC Reviewed

## Help keep our publications list up-to-date

We've compiled a [list of publications](#) relating to Consortium work. Is this up-to-date? If you have any recent publications to add to the list, please [let us know](#).



We're finalising the Consortium publication guidance and will share that with you soon. In the meantime, please [let us know](#) if you have any upcoming publications.

## Scientific Advisory Board meeting

The first Consortium Scientific Advisory Board meeting took place on 29 June 2017 at the Gavi offices in Geneva.

- [List of current Scientific Advisory Board members](#)

- [Download a summary report of the meeting](#)

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## Welcome to new VIMC members!



**Tran Minh Quan**

Oxford University Clinical Research Unit, Vietnam  
Japanese encephalitis Research Assistant



**Margaret De Villiers**

Imperial College London  
Hepatitis B Research Associate



**Alex Hill**

Imperial College London  
Senior Web Developer

Have you recruited any new modellers for Consortium work? Please send us their name and photo, so we can include them [on our website](#).

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## Upcoming surveys on country relationships and data gaps

We want to learn more about Consortium members' experience of working directly with Gavi-supported countries, especially Pakistan, India, Nigeria and Ethiopia, as well as specific data gaps. We will be sending out a survey in the coming months, and would be grateful for your responses.



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