SIXTH MEETING
OF THE
VECTOR CONTROL ADVISORY GROUP

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
26–28 APRIL 2017

World Health Organization

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1. SUMMARY

The sixth meeting of the Vector Control Advisory Group (VCAG) was held at the headquarters of the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva, Switzerland on 26–28 April 2017. The objectives of the meeting were to review and provide guidance on potential new vector control tools for use in public health and to discuss the requirements for data and epidemiological study designs to demonstrate the epidemiological efficacy of new tools.

VCAG reviewed updates on progress in developing and assessing products in its portfolio (including Yorkool LN G2.0 and G2.1, Interceptor G2, Spatial Repellents, wMel *Wolbachia Aedes aegypti* and OX513A *Aedes aegypti*), two guidance documents (one on trial design, the other on vector traps) and the outcomes of a WHO Expert Advisory Group meeting on study design for vector control trials (Geneva, 24–25April 2017).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

All the invited experts completed a declaration of interests form, which was submitted to and reviewed by the Secretariat before the meeting. A summary of any declared interests is given in *Annex 3*.

2. BACKGROUND

VCAG was established in 2012 as an independent advisory body to WHO to review and provide advice on the public health value of new tools and approaches for the prevention and control of vector-borne diseases. The role of VCAG is to:

- conduct an initial review of a new intervention concept and determine which data are required to (i) validate the product class, claim or variation, (ii) determine the public health value, (iii) support the formulation of a WHO policy recommendation;
- advise WHO and applicants on the process for generating the required data;
- assess the data for new vector control tools and approaches once it has been generated to determine whether the public health value of a new product has been demonstrated;
- develop or refine the target product profiles of new vector control classes; and
- provide recommendations to guide policy development.

The purpose of the meeting was to review and provide guidance to innovators on the data requirements for a number of technologies including new long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) claiming efficacy against mosquitoes that are resistant to insecticides as well as several other well-advanced technologies in the VCAG portfolio. The group was briefed on: (i) an advanced draft of an information note on the revised process for evaluating vector control products; (ii) the conclusions of an expert advisory group meeting convened under VCAG on appropriate trial designs for epidemiological data generation (Geneva, 24–25 April 2017); and reviewed (iii) an advanced draft manual on epidemiological study design; and (iv) other guidance documents under development, including a draft manual on efficacy testing of vector traps for control of Aedes-borne diseases and guidance on the field testing of genetically modified mosquitoes with driving transgenes for malaria control.

The meeting was held in open and closed sessions. The open sessions were attended by stakeholders and observers. The closed sessions were restricted to VCAG experts and members of the WHO Secretariat. The meeting agenda is given in *Annex 1* and the list of participants in *Annex 2*.