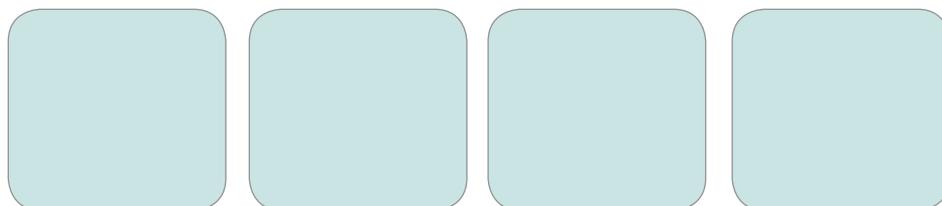


**STRENGTHENING THE ASSESSMENT
OF LYMPHATIC FILARIASIS
TRANSMISSION AND DOCUMENTING
THE ACHIEVEMENT OF ELIMINATION**

MEETING OF THE NEGLECTED TROPICAL
DISEASES STRATEGIC AND TECHNICAL
ADVISORY GROUP'S MONITORING AND
EVALUATION SUBGROUP ON DISEASE-
SPECIFIC INDICATORS

LYMPHATIC FILARIASIS



GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, 27-29 AUGUST 2014



**World Health
Organization**

*Strengthening the assessment of
lymphatic filariasis transmission and
documenting the achievement of
elimination*

*Meeting of the Neglected Tropical Diseases Strategic and Technical Advisory
Group's Monitoring and Evaluation Subgroup on Disease-specific Indicators*

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Abbreviations

ADL	adenolymphangitis
CDC	United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
DEC	diethylcarbamazine
DOLF	Death to Onchocerciasis and Lymphatic Filariasis
EDTA	ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
ELISA	enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
EU	evaluation unit
FTS	Filariasis Test Strip (Alere, Scarborough, ME, United States)
GAELF	Global Alliance to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis
GPELF	Global Programme to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis
ICT United	immunochromatographic test (BinaxNOW Filariasis ICT, Alere, Scarborough, ME, States)
IRS	indoor residual spraying
IU	implementation unit
LF	lymphatic filariasis
MDA	mass drug administration
MMDP	morbidity management and disability prevention
NTD	neglected tropical disease
PC	preventive chemotherapy
PCR	polymerase chain reaction
PPES	probability proportional to estimated size
RPRG	Regional Programme Review Group
SS	systematic sample
STAG	Strategic and Technical Advisory Group
STH	soil-transmitted helminthiases
TAS	transmission-assessment survey
WHO	World Health Organization

1. Opening session

Dr Dirk Engels opened the meeting by asking participants to examine the performance of the new diagnostic test for the *Wuchereria bancrofti* antigen (the Alere Filariasis Test Strip, manufactured by Alere, Scarborough, ME, United States).¹ He requested that the meeting decide whether guidance from the Global Programme to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis (GPELF) on mapping, monitoring and stopping mass drug administration (MDA) would need to change if the new test were implemented.

2. Purpose and objectives

The group selected Dr Patrick Lammie to chair the meeting. Dr Lammie noted that the meeting had three objectives:

1. to recommend new or modified strategies to supplement mapping and delineate the endemicity of lymphatic filariasis (LF);
2. to develop recommendations on the programmatic use of the new Alere Filariasis Test Strip (FTS) if necessary, as determined by the presentation and discussion of results of the comparative studies; and
3. to determine what information should be included in the template for a dossier to be used to document the achievement of elimination targets.

Participants were introduced (*Annex 1*) and the proposed agenda was approved (*Annex 2*).

2.1 Declarations of interest

All the invited experts completed a form of declaration of interests for WHO experts, which were submitted to and assessed by the WHO Secretariat prior to the meeting. WHO decided that all participants could contribute to the discussions of all technical sessions. The following was disclosed:

Dr. Eric Ottesen receives research support in the areas relevant to the topics discussed.

Dr Gary Weil is affiliated with an institution that holds the license to materials used in both the BinaxNow Filariasis ICT and Alere Filariasis Test Strip. Dr. Weil does not receive any financial benefits or research support from royalties. All royalties go to a non-profit charity, The Foundation for Barnes Jewish Hospital.

3. Background methods used to assess transmission of lymphatic filariasis: mapping, sentinel-site monitoring and the TAS

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