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APPENDIXES

Appendix I:

INFORMATION SHEET

TITLE OF STUDY: A study of the correlation between Epstein-Barr Virus infection and the severity of malaria in Ghanaian children under 5 years of age

Principal Investigator: Bashiru Swabira

Department: Medical Laboratory Sciences

Phone: 0269682869

Purpose of Study

You are being asked to voluntarily make your child take part in this research study. But before you decide to allow your ward to participate in the study, it is important that you understand why the research is being carried out and what it entails. Please listen/read carefully and ask anything that is not clear to you or anything you need more information on.

The purpose of this study is therefore to find out if EBV in malaria children is the reason why these children have severe malaria compared to their counterparts who have malaria but not EBV.

Study Procedure

In order to know if your child has malaria, we have to withdraw at least 150ul of blood from his/her finger or heel for the diagnosis. IF it is positive, we would set out to look for the quantity of parasitaemia. More so, with the same blood, we would test for EBV and if it is also positive we would determine antibody titre using ELISA. We would take

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the blood only once and the blood would be analysed at the Virology department of School of Biomedical and Allied Health Science (SBAHS).

Risk

There is only a minimal risk associated with drawing of blood from children which may include a little bleeding, pain, bruising and, rarely, infection. All of these are rarely common. You are assured that experts would be the ones to withdraw the blood from your ward and therefore make it as painless as possible.

Benefit

We will be testing for Epstein-Barr virus in your child which is normally not done in our various medical laboratories and it is therefore a benefit. It is important to know if your child has EBV and it will tell us if it is the reason his/her malaria is severe. Another potential benefit of your ward taking part in this study is that, very important information of your ward sickness will be generated without any cost. These findings will inform your Doctor on how best to go about his/her treatment without delay. Note that you will not receive any financial compensation in this study.

Voluntary Participation:

Allowing participation of your child in this research study is entirely voluntary. Refusal of participation is not going to alter the maximum attention that is going to be given to him/her with regards to his/her health. It would also not incur any penalty at all or loss of benefits.

However, should you decide to allow your ward be recruited in the study, you are also helping in the diagnosis of malaria and findings of this research would attract more attention on EBV and the need for its treatments in children.

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Confidentiality

If you consent to let your ward be recruited in the study, you are assured that all health information pertaining to your child would be kept confidential. We would use numbers rather than names on any sample collected from your ward. When publishing the findings, the name of your ward would not appear in it.

Should you need more information, you should not hesitate to contact my supervisors as well.

Dr Alexander Martin-Odoom Dr. Charles Brown

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INFORMED CONSENT FORM

To be completed by the study participant's parent/guardian

Consent to participate in Research:

The nature and the purpose of the above research study have been openly explained to me in a language that I understand. I have also been made known the benefit and possible risk that is involved in the study. I have also been made aware that the entire study is entirely voluntarily and I can withdraw my ward at any time with/without any reason without attracting any penalty or being denied maximum treatment for my child. Signing below therefore indicates that I have been duly informed about the research study in which I voluntarily agree to my child's participation. I have asked questions to clear any doubt and the information given to me has permitted me to make an informed and free decision about my child's participation in the study. By signing this consent form, I do not forgo any legal rights against the investigators and I can also withdraw from this study at any time. A copy of this consent form will be provided to me.

Name of guardian/parent----------

Signature/ thumbprint of Parent_____ Date_____

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Appendix 2

Structured Questionaire for interviews for the determination of risk factors of severe malaria

Q1. Demography of children

	Participant code	
	Gender	Male: Female
AGE	0-7months	
	8-23months	
	24-48months	
	Age>48months <60months	
	Study site	

Q3. **Clinical data**

Fever ( ) **Malaise ( )**

vomiting ( ) **Convulsion ( )**

Diarrhoea ( ) **Respiratory distress ( )**

Pallor ( )

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Q2. Indicators (Laboratory Findings) of Severe Malaria

Laboratory findings	Quantity
Parasitaemia (parasites/ul)	
Haemoglobin(10^6/l	
White blood cells (10^9/l)	
Red blood cell(10^{12}/l)	

Risk Factors of Underlying Disease

Factors		Yes	No
Duration of illness	1-2 days		
	3-4days		
	5-more days		
Use of protective measures	ITNs		