

INVITATION TO A SEMINAR

BANDIM HEALTH PROJECT'S 40-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

"FORTY YEARS OF CONTRADICTING CONVENTIONAL WISDOM"

TIME: 9TH NOVEMBER 2018 AT 9.30 - 17.00

VENUE: STATENS SERUM INSTITUT, FOREDRAGSSALEN, ARTILLERIVEJ 5, 2300 COPENHAGEN S

BACKGROUND

Since 1978, the Bandim Health Project (BHP), a Danish-Guinean Health and Demographic Surveillance System (HDSS) site in Guinea-Bissau, has followed a population with regular home visits as a basis for conducting research into the causes of mortality and morbidity. The focus has been on evaluating the effects of health promoting interventions in childhood (including vaccinations and vitamin A supplementation), and on the epidemiology and effects of the treatment programmes of major causes of mortality (including measles, diarrhea, respiratory infections, malaria, cholera, tuberculosis, and HIV).

During the 40 years, BHP has made numerous observations, where "common wisdom" in global health was contradicted by reality – for instance, it was observed that vaccines, in addition to their specific effects on the targeted disease, also have important impact on the susceptibility to other infections.

Such observations tend to be dismissed as implausible. However, BHP has made a virtue of pursuing the contradictions – and from that has grown a number of new insights.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the seminar is to share the BHP research results with a wider group of interested fellow researchers, stakeholders, and past and hopefully future collaborators. We will also discuss the importance of looking for and pursuing contradictions of conventional wisdom in global health; based on 40 years of research, BHP will claim that this is an important path to gain new insights and make longlasting improvements in global health.

PARTICIPANTS

Researchers, students, consultants, NGOs, Danida representatives, politicians, funders, media, and others who find this subject of interest.

REGISTRATION

*Kindly indicate your participation in the seminar before **6th November 2018** by sending an email to Marianne Gantriis Poulsen at bandim@ssi.dk. Thank you!*

PROGRAMME

BANDIM HEALTH PROJECT'S 40 YEARS' ANNIVERSARY

9th November 2018 at 9.30 - 17.00

9.00 - 9.30 **REGISTRATION, COFFEE AND TEA**

9.30 - 9.35 **WELCOME**

Prof. Kåre Mølbak, Scientific Director, SSI, BHP Advisory Group, former BHP

9.35 - 9.50 **THE CURRENT HEALTH CHALLENGES IN GUINEA-BISSAU AND ROLE OF BHP**

Dr. Placido Cardoso, National Institute of Health, Guinea-Bissau

9.50 - 10.30 **FOLLOWING THE CONTRADICTIONS – THE HISTORY FROM 1978-2018**

Prof. Peter Aaby, BHP, Guinea-Bissau

10.30 - 10.50 **COFFEE AND TEA**

• **BHP'S PURSUIT OF CONTRADICTIONS**

10.50 - 11.10 **VACCINES HAVE BROADER NON-SPECIFIC EFFECTS**

Prof. Christine Stabell Benn, Center leader, BHP, Statens Serum Institut

11.10 - 11.25 **WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED IN REAL LIFE ABOUT OTHER HEALTH INTERVENTIONS AND INTERACTIONS**

Dr. Ane B Fisker, Senior reseacher, BHP, Statens Serum Institut

11.25 - 11.40 **TAKING THE FINDINGS TO OTHER LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES: THE GHANA EXPERIENCE**

Dr. Paul Welaga, postdoc, Navrongo Health Research Center, Ghana

11.40 - 11.55 **TAKING THE FINDINGS BACK TO DENMARK**

Dr. Signe Sørup, postdoc, BHP, Statens Serum Institut

11.55 - 12.20 **THE INNATE IMMUNE SYSTEM CAN BE TRAINED BY VACCINES**

Prof. Mihai Netea, Radboud University, The Netherlands

12.20 - 13.00 **DISCUSSION: CAUSAL CRITERIA AND CASUAL CONTRADICTIONS**

Chair: Prof. Jørn Olsen, Aarhus University, BHP Advisory group

13.00 - 13.40 **LUNCH**

• **THE THREE BIG DISEASES**

13.40 - 13.55 **CHLOROQUINE AS MALARIA TREATMENT: UNFAIRLY CULPRIT**

Dr. Johan Ursing, Karolinska Instituttet, Sweden

13.55 - 14.10 **HIV IN GUINEA-BISSAU: WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?**

Dr. Sanne Jespersen, Aarhus University Hospital, Denmark

14.10 - 14.25 **CONTRADICTIONS IN COMMON KNOWLEDGE ON TUBERCULOSIS**

Dr. Christian Wejse, Aarhus University Hospital, Denmark

14.25 - 14.45 **DISCUSSION: ARE WE ON THE RIGHT TRACK WITH REGARD TO THE THREE BIG DISEASES?**

Chair: Prof. Ib Bygbjerg, University of Copenhagen, BHP Advisory Group

14.45 - 15.15 **COFFEE AND TEA**

15.15 - 16.10 **BATTLE: WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION THAT BHP HAS MADE TO GLOBAL HEALTH?**

Chair: TBC

THE FOLLOWING PANELLISTS WILL EACH HAVE 5 MINUTES TO MAKE THEIR CLAIM:

- **CAPACITY BUILDING IN AFRICA:** What happened to the Africans who trained at BHP?

Dr. Placido Cardoso, National Institute of Health, Guinea-Bissau

- **WIDENING THE PERSPECTIVE OF DANISH MDS:** What happened to the Danes who went to Guinea-Bissau?

Dr. Marianne Skytte Jakobsen, Head Consultant, Odense University Hospital, former BHP

- **PROVIDING NUMBERS IN COUNTRIES WITH NO NATIONAL DATA:** The role of BHP and other HDSS sites in global health

Prof. Olaf Müller, Heidelberg University, Germany

- **PROVIDING A PLATFORM FOR NORTH-SOUTH COLLABORATIONS:** Linking Danish university research with The BHP

Prof. Morten Sodemann, University of Southern Denmark, former BHP

- **A PLATFORM FOR STUDYING CONTRADICTIONS IN REAL-LIFE EFFECTS**

Prof. Peter Aaby, BHP, Guinea-Bissau

- **WIDENING OUR HORIZON:** Bandim from an author's perspective

Sissel-Jo Gazan, author

16.10 - 16.55 **DISCUSSION: THE NEXT 10 YEARS**

Chair: Nils Strandberg Pedersen, former Board Director University of Copenhagen, former Director of SSI, BHP Advisory Group

16.55 - 17.00 **CLOSING REMARKS**

17.00 → **RECEPTION**



BANDIM HEALTH PROJECT