Lessons learned in the recruitment of adolescents and children to the EBOVAC-Salone clinical trial in Sierra Leone


Facts & Figures

Start Date 01/12/2014
End Date 30/11/2019
Contributions
IMI Funding 58 292 722 €
EFPIA in kind: 33 745 758 €
Other: 1 €
Total Cost 92 038 481 €
Project website: www.ebovac.org

Results

- Research suggests there may be challenges to recruiting adolescents and children to clinical trials, especially in epidemic contexts.
- Despite concerns that parents/guardians may be reluctant to enroll their children in trials, our findings showed high uptake amongst adolescents and children, and strong support from their parents.

Approach & Methodology

The study is based on qualitative research on the EBOVAC-Salone trial, including ethnographic observations, exit interviews, in-depth interviews, focus group discussions with trial participants and key stakeholder interviews.

Impact & take home message

The participation and retention of adolescents and children in this Ebola vaccine trial may depend on trust and social relations, in contrast to the individual factors that influence adult participants.

References

[1] Tengbeh, A.F. et al. (2018) “We are the heroes because we are ready to die for this country”: Participants’ decision-making and grounded ethics in an Ebola vaccine clinical trial. Social Science & Medicine, 203(March), 35–42.