

COVID-19 pandemic : the role of Research
Ethics Committees and Research Ethics
Administrators during Emergency
Research

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Comment

Global coalition to accelerate research in resource-limited settings

the COVID-19 pandemic. Ethical review boards in many countries are under strain that require rapid review.^{8,9}

effective in prevention or treatment. The response from the research community to the pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) has been vigorous. A review of clinical trials published on March 24, 2020, identified 536 relevant clinical trials.¹ Of the 332 COVID-19 related clinical trials, 188 are open for recruitment and 146 trials are preparing to recruit.^{1,2} The distribution of these clinical trials is centred in the countries most affected by

We propose to facilitate COVID-19 research in LMIC settings by identifying and supporting established local investigators, local manufacturers, and clinical trial sites. We will make existing clinical trial support capacity and trial platforms available. This approach will ensure optimal data gathering, management, security, and analytical capacity, and will support adaptive designs if necessary and feasible. The platform will ensure independent data governance and a controlled and rapid data sharing mechanism. Finally, we will facilitate the establishment and operation of data and safety monitoring boards.

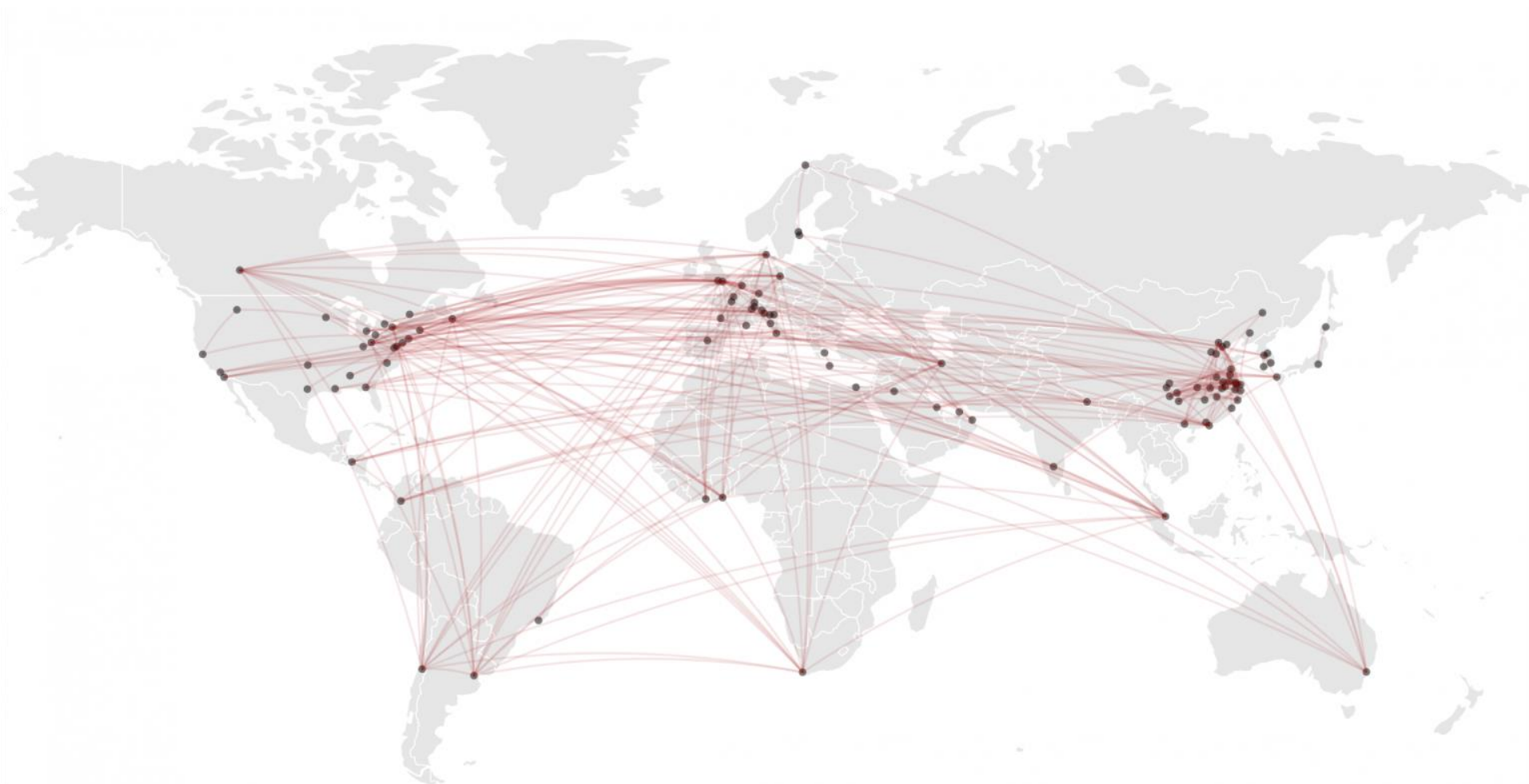
ensure the necessary coordination and sharing of information. WHO will also have a central role in reviewing the evidence generated by trials and in producing guidelines. Yet despite these international efforts, there

RHIInnO Ethics – a *web-based* Research Ethics Review platform for Africa

- What it does do now :
 - Efficiency of Ethics Review
 - Expert Decision Support
 - Transparency
 - Africa – continental & global info & linkage
 - **Health Research Web**
 - MARC Web

RHIInnO Ethics – a *web-based* Research Ethics Review platform for Africa

- What it should do – especially now :
 - Real-time updates
 - Virtual RECA
 - “EthiXPERT” – build your own expert-base
 - “EthiCALL” – all RECs in one RCT in a group
 - Health Research Web
 - *Financial Flows & Accountability* in Research
 - *Build African Ethics Guidelines* – in and outside emergencies



Map of COVID 19 scientific collaboration indexed in the Scopus on the 7th of April 2020

Keywords : "COVID-19", "SARS-CoV-2", "2019-nCoV". 519 articles

Created with Netscity (<https://www.irit.fr/netscity/prod/>) by Marion Maisonobe (UMR Géographie-cités - CNRS). JS map by amCharts.



RHInno Ethics: an online review platform for research ethics committees

26 April 2012

Today, the MARC project – Mapping of research ethics review and trial regulatory capacity in sub-Saharan Africa – launched an online review platform for Research Ethics Committees: the Research for Health and Innovation Organiser (RHInno) platform. The platform was demonstrated at the Forum 2012 in Cape Town, South Africa. The purpose of the platform is to facilitate an efficient ethical review clearance of clinical research involving human subjects.

International standards require that protocols of clinical research are reviewed by an independent research ethic committee (REC). However, many RECs in Africa lack the tools to coordinate efficiently the submission and review of protocols and timely communication to researchers. They face an increasing amount of paperwork. Resources and knowledge exchange are also limited.

RHInno Ethics was created by the Web4Development team at the COHRED group. It aims to speed up the review process by improving efficiency. The system provides research ethics committees with a secure, web-based solution for tracking research applications throughout the lifecycle of the research project. This will improve control of research activities by the RECs and will contribute to safer management of submitted

Screenshot

