Epicentre

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BACKGROUND AND MISSION
Epicentre is a non-profit organisation created in 1986 by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). It groups health professionals specialising in public health and epidemiology and works principally, but not exclusively, for the national sections of MSF. Its purpose is to conduct tests and studies for requesting agencies, including MSF, WHO and other NGOs, and to provide experts in public health and applied epidemiology for short-term consultancies. It is a WHO Collaborating Centre for Research in Epidemiology and Response to Emerging Diseases.

AREAS OF INTEREST
- Field epidemiology
- Clinical research
- Population health

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES
Epicentre conducts studies and surveys on the following topics: rapid health assessments in emergency situations, epidemic outbreak investigations, evaluation of health programmes and health needs, implementation and evaluation of epidemiological surveillance programmes, and evaluation of national health information systems. Epicentre's teams are located in Europe (Paris, Geneva, Brussels, Barcelona) and in New-York, and in two research centers in Mbarara (Uganda) and Maradi (Niger). Epicentre focuses on the most deadly conditions such as malaria, tuberculosis, HIV infection and child malnutrition; vaccination preventable diseases; diseases with epidemic potential: cholera, meningitis, measles, and haemorrhagic fevers such as yellow fever, Ebola and Marburg fever, and other health topics such as Buruli ulcer, psychological care and sleeping sickness.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF
The executive director is Emmanuel Baron. The organisation has around 40 employees in its European offices together, and 150 in its research facilities in Uganda and Niger.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET
Epicentre is a non-profit organisation, funded by MSF and other organisations that may request Epicentre's expertise.
PUBLICATIONS
Epicentre's findings are published in journals such as the Journal of the American Medical Association, the Lancet, the New England Journal of Medicine, Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene and in Public Library of Science (PLoS).

Last update: 21.08.2019