

HIV/AIDS Bibliography In Cameroon

References from 1980's to May 2010

1st Edition

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**Bibliographie du VIH/SIDA au
Cameroun**

**A Bibliography of HIV/AIDS in
Cameroon**

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DEDICACE/DEDICATION

Nous dédions cette bibliographie à tous les chercheurs impliqués
dans la recherche sur le VIH/SIDA au Cameroun

This Bibliography is dedicated to all researchers in Cameroon, who
are involved in HIV/AIDS research

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Ce livre et certains exemplaires des articles de journaux scientifiques, thèses, mémoires, résumés de conférences, livre et chapitres de livres collectés dans le cadre de la constitution de cette bibliographie sont disponibles dans un espace réservé au Centre de Documentation du CIRCB.

Pour plus d'informations sur cette étude, veuillez contacter l'une des personnes suivantes:

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Cette bibliographie est disponible en ligne sur le site internet du CIRCB (<http://www.circb-cameroun.org/index.php/>).

Les éditions suivantes de ce livre seront uniquement disponibles en versions électroniques.

This book and hard copies of some of the journal articles, theses, dissertations, conference abstracts, books and book chapter collected as part of this bibliography are available on a dedicated space at the documentation centre of the CIRCB.

For more information on this study, please contact one of the following:

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This bibliography is available online via the CIRCB website (<http://www.circb-cameroun.org/index.php/>).

Subsequent editions of this book would be available only as electronic copies.

Contexte

Le Cameroun, pays en voie de développement situé dans la sous région Afrique centrale, abrite pratiquement toutes les souches du virus de l'immunodéficience humaine. Le taux de prévalence du VIH y est de 5,1% (UNAIDS/WHO, 2008). Le Cameroun bénéficie de la présence d'un grand nombre d'institutions de recherche qui, en plus des Universités, sont impliquées dans la recherche sur le VIH. Parmi ces institutions, on peut citer, entre autres, l'Agence Nationale de Recherche sur le Sida et les Hépatites virales (ANRS), le Centre Pasteur du Cameroun (CPC), le Centre International de Référence Chantal Biya pour la recherche, la prévention et la prise en charge du VIH/SIDA (CIRCB), l'Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD), l'Institut de Recherches Médicales et d'Etudes des Plantes Médicinales (IMPM), l'Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographiques (IFORD), la Medical Research Station de Kumba, l'Organisation de Coopération pour la lutte contre les Endémies en Afrique Centrale (OCEAC). De même, diverses Universités du Cameroun à l'instar des Universités de Buéa, Douala, Maroua, Ngaoundéré et Yaoundé, l'Université Catholique d'Afrique Centrale (UCAC) ont des Facultés et/ou écoles des Sciences, de Médecine et/ou des Sciences sociales au sein desquelles se fait la recherche sur le VIH. Un certain nombre d'organisations non gouvernementales, à but non lucratif, ainsi que des organisations à but lucratif, impliquées dans la recherche contre le VIH/SIDA existent également au Cameroun.

De ce point de vue, la recherche sur le VIH fait donc partie intégrante de la recherche médicale au Cameroun. Des politiques et programmes liés à la prévention et à la prise en charge du VIH sont conduits par le Ministère de la Santé Publique essentiellement à travers le Comité National de Lutte Contre le VIH/SIDA. La recherche de façon générale, et la recherche sur le VIH en particulier, est principalement du ressort des Ministères de la Santé Publique, du Ministère de la Recherche Scientifique et de l'Innovation Technologique et du Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur.

Depuis la décennie 80, le Cameroun a bénéficié d'énormes financements pour la recherche sur le VIH. Une partie de ces fonds est parfois destinée aux programmes de renforcement de capacités. A titre d'exemple, bon nombre de projets sur le VIH/SIDA ont été réalisés

dans le cadre de la coopération Cameroun-Italie (Monny-Lobe, 2007). D'autres agences de financement telles que le European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP), la Fondation Bill et Melinda Gates et la Fondation Elsevier ont également financé la recherche et les programmes de renforcement pour la recherche sur le VIH/SIDA au Cameroun.

Il n'est donc pas surprenant, qu'à l'instar d'autres pays en voie de développement, le Cameroun ait été activement impliqué dans la lutte contre la pandémie du VIH au cours des dernières années. Il est assez intéressant de noter qu'ici pratiquement chaque secteur est impliqué dans la recherche sur le VIH. Il s'agit des autorités gouvernementales, institutions de recherche, centres hospitaliers universitaires, comités locaux et société civile. Des personnes issues de tous les secteurs d'activité (étudiants, juristes, journalistes, biologistes, spécialistes en sciences sociales, hommes politiques, épidémiologistes, cliniciens, etc.) ont apporté leur contribution dans la lutte contre le VIH au Cameroun. Pourtant, bon nombre de ces études et de leurs résultats sont peu connus de la communauté scientifique impliquée dans la lutte contre le VIH. Par conséquent, il y a un risque réel de duplication des études. Ceci entraîne également le gaspillage des ressources humaines et de la recherche, d'où la nécessité de produire une bibliographie complète et systématique à laquelle tous les acteurs impliqués dans la lutte contre le VIH pourraient avoir accès en un simple clic.

A l'échelle du monde, les études bibliographiques font de plus en plus partie intégrante de la recherche dans toutes les institutions de recherche et l'importance de telles études ne peut plus être négligée. William Thomson souligne l'importance de telles études en ces termes: *«Si vous pouvez mesurer ce dont vous parlez et l'exprimer en chiffres, c'est que vous connaissez quelque chose de ce dont vous parlez; si par contre vous ne pouvez le mesurer, c'est que votre connaissance est superficielle et insatisfaisante»*. Cette théorie explique le regain d'intérêt dans la mesure des travaux scientifiques dans pratiquement toutes les disciplines. On peut dire d'une bibliographie qu'elle est un instrument clef d'enregistrement des productions écrites d'un pays, d'une institution ou d'une discipline. De nos jours, la bibliométrie devient de plus en plus importante dans l'évaluation et le financement de la recherche. Les institutions doivent donc s'appuyer sur l'analyse de la performance de la recherche pour orienter la prise de décision:

sur quel aspect de la recherche se concentrer, quel personnel engager, quels domaines de la recherche nécessitent le renforcement de capacités. La bibliographie donne également une idée de la place de l'institution/pays au niveau international. La liste des avantages ne peut être exhaustive. Cependant, pour qu'une telle évaluation ait lieu, il est absolument nécessaire de mettre préalablement en place une bibliographie presque exhaustive du sujet en question.

Il existe un besoin incontestable de souligner les domaines de recherches importants et prometteurs, si l'on veut répondre à la question toujours pertinente de savoir quels projets de recherche doivent être financés et quels chercheurs doivent bénéficier de plus d'appui, questions que se posent les décideurs, les Universités et les bailleurs de fonds. Ceci n'est toutefois pas la seule question adressée par une telle étude. Il est grand temps qu'on mette à disposition des chercheurs et autres acteurs impliqués dans la recherches, des informations précisant quelles études ont été faites, afin d'éviter les doublons, étant donné que les financements destinés à la recherche sont limités. Cela pourrait aussi donner une idée plus claire de ce qui reste à faire. De même, les résultats de nombreuses recherches restent largement inconnus des chercheurs étant donné que certains sont publiés exclusivement dans les livres de résumés de conférences, dans les journaux à abonnement (un handicap pour les chercheurs des pays en voie de développement) ou ne sont disponibles que dans libraires.

C'est dans cet esprit qu'en 2009, le CIRCB, sous la houlette du Dr Odile Ouwe Missi Oukem-Boyer et de l'Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD) sous la tutelle du Dr Laurent Vidal, ont initié un projet de constitution d'une bibliographie des études sur le VIH/SIDA au Cameroun. L'objectif était d'avoir accès à la production scientifique du Cameroun depuis la découverte du virus et d'évaluer la performance de la recherche du pays. Contrairement à d'autres études bibliographiques menées dans d'autres institutions et pays à travers le monde, cette étude est unique en ce sens qu'elle prend en compte une gamme variée de types de publications dont les articles de journaux scientifiques, les actes des conférences, les thèses/mémoires, livres, chapitres de livres, etc. C'est la première fois qu'une étude de ce type est faite au Cameroun. En réalité, la Bibliométrie ou Scientométrie n'en est qu'à sa phase embryonnaire au Cameroun. Des études similaires

ont été faites au Sénégal (Becker, 2000), au Nigéria (Uthman, 2008), en Inde (Patra et al, 2007) et en Haïti (Macias-Chapula, 2000).

En 2009, nous avons initié une liste des publications scientifiques décrivant les études sur le VIH/SIDA au Cameroun. En 2010, presque 2000 publications sur le VIH/SIDA faisaient déjà partie de notre base de données sur la recherche sur le VIH/SIDA au Cameroun. Nous y sommes parvenus moyennant l'utilisation de divers moyens: recherche sur Internet, visites de diverses institutions de recherche et centres de documentation (Universités de Buéa, Douala, Ngaoundéré et Yaoundé, l'Université Catholique d'Afrique Centrale, Yaoundé, l'OCEAC, l'OMS, l'UNESCO, etc.), envoi de méls aux chercheurs et institutions de recherche, etc. Sur la base des données déjà collectées, l'équipe a bon espoir de fournir une analyse de la performance de la recherche sur le VIH/SIDA au Cameroun. Il est à espérer que les résultats de cette étude guideront les chercheurs (en les renseignant sur les domaines de la recherche qui méritent une attention), les étudiants (d'Universités qui pourraient les assister dans l'atteinte de leur objectifs académiques), les institutions de recherche, les bailleurs de fonds, les autorités gouvernementales (sur les besoin du pays en matière de recherche) ainsi que les bibliothécaires qui ne savent pas toujours à quels journaux s'abonner, quel documents commander pour leurs bibliothèques, etc.

Nous envisageons de mettre à disposition de la communauté scientifique au sens large les publications identifiées dans le cadre de cette étude, à la fois sous la forme papier et électronique. Les copies imprimées de certains de ces travaux sont d'ores et déjà disponibles sur un espace réservé au Centre de Documentation du CIRCB. On entend rendre cette base de données accessible au grand public; en un seul clic, les chercheurs pourront accéder à cette base y avoir l'information recherchée. Cette initiative devrait donc être d'une grande utilité pour les scientifiques impliqués dans la recherche sur le VIH/SIDA, où qu'ils soient dans le monde.

Background

Cameroon, a developing country, located in the central African sub region plays host to basically all strains of the human immunodeficiency viruses and has an HIV prevalence rate of 5.1% (UNAIDS/WHO, 2008). Cameroon enjoys the presence of a good number of research institutions in addition to Universities, which amongst other things are involved in HIV-related research. Some of these research institutions include but not limited to: The French National Agency for AIDS Research (ANRS), Centre Pasteur du Cameroun (CPC), the «Chantal Biya» International Reference Center for Research on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Management (CIRCB), Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD), Institute of Medical Research and the Study of Medicinal Plant (IMPM), Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographiques (IFORD), Medical Research Station Kumba, Organisation de Coordination pour la lutte contre les Endémies en Afrique Centrale (OCEAC). Likewise, various Universities in Cameroon like that of Buea, Douala, Maroua, Ngaoundere and Yaounde, the Catholic University of Central Africa (UCAC) comprises faculties and/or schools of science, health science, medicine and the social sciences where research on HIV is ongoing. A number of nongovernmental, not for profit and for profit organizations involved in the fight against HIV/AIDS also exist in Cameroon.

Research on HIV therefore forms an integral part of health research in Cameroon. Policies and programs related to HIV prevention and management are done by the Ministry of Public Health mainly through the National Committee for the Fight against HIV/AIDS. Research on HIV as well as research in general is mainly the preoccupation of the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Scientific Research and technological Innovation and the Ministry of Higher Education.

Cameroon has enjoyed enormous funding for HIV research dating as far back as the 1980s. At times, some of the funding for research involves capacity building programs. For example a good number of projects on HIV/AIDS have been realized within the framework of the Cameroon-Italy cooperation (Monny-Lobe, 2007). Other funding agencies like the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP), the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Elsevier Foundation have equally funded research and capacity

building programs for HIV/AIDS research in Cameroon.

It is therefore not surprising that Cameroon like most developing countries has in the past years been actively involved in the fight against the HIV pandemic. Interestingly enough, basically, every sector in the country is involved in research on HIV. This includes: government authorities, research institutions, Universities hospitals, local councils and the civil society. People of all walks of life (students, lawyers, journalists, biologists, social scientists, politicians, epidemiologists, clinicians etc.) have contributed a quota in the fight against HIV in Cameroon. Yet a good number of these studies are not available to the scientific community involved in the fight against HIV. As such, these might lead to the duplication of studies. Equally this leads to waste of manpower and research resources. This therefore necessitates the creation of an exhaustive and systematic bibliography that could be made available through the click of a mouse to all involved in the fight against HIV.

World wide, bibliographic studies are fast becoming an integral part of research in every institution around the world and the importance of such studies cannot be downplayed. William Thomson puts the importance of such studies in the following words: *"If you can measure that of which you speak and express it by a number, you know something of your subject; but if you cannot measure it, your knowledge is meager and unsatisfactory"*. The measurement of published scholarship and scientific research has therefore gained impetus in basically every discipline. A bibliography can thus be said to be a key instrument to record the literary output of a nation, an institution or a discipline. Today, bibliometrics are becoming more and more important in research evaluation and research funding. Institutions therefore have to rely on the analysis of research performance to guide decision making: which aspect of research to concentrate on, which staffs to hire, areas of research that need capacity building and the output of their staffs in terms of research. It equally provides a clue on the stance of the institution/country at the international level. This list is almost endless. However for such evaluation to be done there is a need to first and foremost, constitute an almost exhaustive bibliography of the subject under question.

There is an unquestionable need to highlight important and promising areas of research, if the ever urgent questions by policy makers, Universities and funders, of which research project should be funded and which researchers should be beneficiaries of more support is to be answered. However, this is not just the only significance of such a study. There is a need to make available to researchers and other stakeholders involved in research, information of which studies have been done already to avoid duplicate studies, considering that funding for research is limited. This could also throw more light on what still has to be done. Equally, the results of many research studies are still largely unavailable to researchers, since some are published exclusively in the conference book of abstracts, or in journals that require subscription (a hindrance to most researchers in developing countries) or simply available in library shelves.

It is with this in mind that in 2009, the CIRCB, under the leadership of Dr. Odile Ouwe Missi Oukem-Boyer and the Institut de Recherche pour le Development (IRD) under the tutelage of Dr. Laurent Vidal, initiated a project on constituting a bibliography of studies on HIV/AIDS in Cameroon, with a bid of accessing Cameroon's research output since the discovery of the virus and to evaluate Cameroon's research performance. Unlike most bibliographic studies carried out in institutions and countries around the world, this study is unique in that it involves a wide range of publication types; journal articles, conference proceedings, thesis/dissertations, books, book sections etc. It is the first time such a study is being carried out in Cameroon. In fact, Bibliometrics or Scientometrics is still at its infancy in Cameroon. Similar studies have been done in Senegal (Becker, 2000), Nigeria (Uthman, 2008), India (Patra et al., 2007) and Haiti Macias-Chapula, 2000).

In the year 2009, we started compiling a list of scientific publications describing studies on HIV/AIDS in Cameroon. By the end of 2010, close to 2000 publications on HIV/AIDS in Cameroon had been entered into a database of HIV/AIDS research in Cameroon. This was done using a variety of means which include: web-based searches, visits to various research institutions and documentation centers (Universities of Buea, Douala, Ngaoundéré and Yaoundé, the Catholic University of

Central Africa, Yaoundé, OCEAC, WHO, UNESCO etc), email to researchers and research institutions etc. Based on the data already collected, the team hopes to provide an analysis of Cameroon's research performance on HIV/AIDS. It is hoped that the finding of the study would guide researchers (on which area of research requires some attention), students (in search of mentors and institutions that could assist them meet their academic objectives), research institutions, funders, government officials (on the country's research needs) as well as librarians having problems with which journals to subscribe to, reading materials to order for their libraries etc.

Considerations are under way to make the publications collected in this study publicly available, both as hard and electronic copies, to the wider scientific community. Hard copies of some of the publication are already available at a dedicated site (Documentation Centre of the CIRCB). Plans are on the way to make the database publicly available to all, in the hope that a mere click of the mouse would be sufficient to provide access to the information. This is therefore going to be an asset to all scientist interested in HIV/AIDS research and located anywhere around the Globe. With such a database available via the World Wide Web, it is hoped that scientists would be able to have specific information on HIV/AIDS in Cameroon irrespective of their location in the world.

Composition de la Bibliographie

Articles de revues

Très souvent, les publications sont constituées de livres et de revues. Toutefois, la part des revues dans les publications scientifiques devient de plus en plus importante. Les revues sont employées comme moyen de communication entre les chercheurs.

Dans cette bibliographie, nous avons pu constituer une longue liste d'articles de revues. Ces articles sont ceux publiés dans les revues nationales et internationales. Certains de ces articles ne sont pas encore disponibles sur Internet.

Résumés de Conférences (présentations orales et posters)

De plus en plus, les rencontres scientifiques deviennent le lieu où des scientifiques/chercheurs rencontrent leurs pairs pour discuter des résultats de leur recherche et tisser des liens. La plupart du temps, les organisateurs de conférences compilent les résumés des présentations dans un livre appelé "livre de résumés" ou sur un CD-ROM. Les résumés sont rarement disponibles sur le site Internet de la conférence. Cette bibliographie comporte les résumés sur le VIH/SIDA au Cameroun présentés lors des conférences nationales et internationales. Certaines des plus importantes sont les Conférences Internationales sur le SIDA, la Conférence Internationale sur le SIDA et les IST en Afrique (CISSIDA) et la Conférence sur les Antirétroviraux et les Infections Opportunistes (CROI).

Thèses/Mémoires

Les thèses et mémoires des étudiants constituent une grande partie de cette bibliographie. Les thèses qui décrivent la recherche sur le VIH qui sont recensées dans cette bibliographie ont été identifiées à l'Université Catholique d'Afrique Centrale, à l'Université de Buéa, à l'Université de Yaoundé I et à l'Université de Ngaoundéré. Les

thèses/mémoires des Universités étrangères dans les pays comme le Canada, la France etc., figurent dans cette bibliographie. Cette bibliographie comporte donc des mémoires de Maîtrise, DEA, Master, et thèses de Doctorat.

Livres et Chapitres de Livres

Les livres et les chapitres de livres constituent un pan important de toute bibliographie. Dans cette bibliographie du VIH/SIDA au Cameroun, nous avons un certain nombre de livres et chapitres de livres consacrés au VIH/SIDA au Cameroun.

Structure de la Bibliographie

Pour rendre l'utilisation de cette bibliographie facile, nous avons classé les références sur la base des thèmes suivants en fonction du type de recherche:

1. Biologie
2. Clinique
3. Epidémiologie,
4. Information, Education et Communication (IEC)
5. Sciences Sociales
6. Programmation
7. Autres (figurent ici tous les travaux qui ne correspondent à aucun des 6 thèmes sus-cités)

Nous espérons que cette bibliographie sera pour vous un document utile et de référence.

Néanmoins, la perfection n'existe pas. Il y a certainement encore des

erreurs et des oublis, malgré tout le soin que nous avons apporté à la finition de cet ouvrage. Si vous trouvez des erreurs typographiques, des détails manquants (numéros de page par exemple), ou si vous considérez que votre référence a été mal classée, n'hésitez pas à nous écrire. Nous espérons qu'avec votre aide, les prochaines versions de cette bibliographie seront meilleures.

Composition of the Bibliography

Journal Articles

Often, publications include books and journals, yet increasingly, journals constitute the majority of published scholarship. Journals are used as means of communication between researchers.

In this bibliography we were able to get a long list of journal articles. These articles include those published in both local and international journals, some of which are not yet available via the Internet.

Conference Abstracts (both oral and poster)

Scientific meetings are fast becoming a place where scientists/researchers meet with peers to discuss research findings at times for networking. Most conferences usually have all the abstracts presented at the conference in a book usually referred to as a "book of abstracts" or on a CD-ROM. Rarely, the abstracts are made available via the conference website. This bibliography includes abstracts on HIV/AIDS in Cameroon as presented in different international and local conferences. Some of the prominent ones include the International AIDS conferences, the international Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa (ICASA) and the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic infections (CROI).

Theses/Dissertations

Student theses and dissertations form a large part of this bibliography. Theses describing research on HIV and found in this bibliography were collected from the Catholic University of Central Africa, University of Buea, University of Yaoundé, and University of Ngaoundéré. Theses/dissertations from foreign Universities e.g. Universities in Canada, France etc are also listed on this bibliography. This bibliography therefore includes Undergraduate dissertations, Maitrise, DEA, Masters, Doctoral and PhD theses.

Books and Book Chapters

Books and book chapters constitute an important part of any bibliography. In this bibliography of HIV/AIDS in Cameroon, we have a number of books and book chapters focused on HIV/AIDS in Cameroon.

Lay out of the Bibliography

To make the use of this bibliography easier, we have classified the references based on the following themes depending on the type of research:

1. Biology
2. Clinical
3. Epidemiology,
4. Information, Education and Communication (IEC)
5. Social Sciences
6. Programmatic
7. Others (this include those that do not fit into any of the afore mentioned 6 themes)

It is our hope that you will find this bibliography a useful tool and a reference document.

However, we do not claim perfection. Despite careful efforts to tidy up the final draft of this book, there are certainly some mistakes and omissions in this version of the bibliography. Please should you find typographical errors, missing details (page numbers for example), or should you think that your publication was not properly classified, do not hesitate to contact us. We sincerely do hope that with your help, subsequent versions of this bibliography will be better.

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