

## Profile

**Name:** Dr. Wilkinson Thuku Mutahi

**Title:** Lecturer

**Interests:** I am interested in the epidemiology, control and immunology of parasitic helminths, in particular the chemotherapeutic control of the Bilharzia worm *Schistosoma mansoni* in Kenya. Another problem that concerns me is the potential for the development of drug resistance by schistosomes to praziquantel, now that its price has come down drastically.

**C'urrent research activities:** I am at present testing the molluscidal activities of extracts of various plants including *Polygonum senegalensis* and *Melea volkensi*. The later has shown great promise. I would like to extend these investigations to other phytoactive remedies in use in the region in the hope of finding an acceptable, easily cultivated and sustainable molluscicide to supplement chemotherapeutic control efforts against schistosomiasis.

**Research grants:** none at the moment

## Publications

- Coles G.C.: Bruce J.I.: Kinoti G.K., Mutahi W.T.: Dias E.P. and Katz N. (1986). Drug resistance in schistosomiasis. Trans. Roy. Soc. Trop. Med. Hyg. 80:347
- Coles G.C.: Mutahi W.T.: Kinoti G.K.: Bruce J.I. and Katz N. (1987). Tolerance of Kenyan *Schistosoma mansoni* to oxamniquine. Trans. Roy. Soc. Trop. Med. Hyg. 81:782-785
- Coles G.C.: Bruce J.I.: Kinoti G.K.: Mutahi W.T. Dias L.C.S.: Rocha R.S. and Katz N. (1987). The potential for drug resistance in schistosomiasis. Parasitology Today 3:340
- Munene J.: Otsyula M.: Mbaabu D.A.N.: Mutahi W.T.: Muriuki S.M.K. and Muchemi G.M. (1998). Helminth and protozoan gastrointestinal tract parasites in captive and wild-trapped African non-human primates. Veterinary Parasitology 78:195-201.
- Mutahi, W.T. and Thiong'o, F.W. (2005). The prevalence and intensity of *schistosomiasis mansoni* in irrigation and non-irrigation areas of central Kenya. East African Med. J. 82(11): 586-591

APM/SBS  
Note this  
publication