



GENETIC CHARACTERIZATION OF MULTI-DRUG RESISTANT TRYPANOSOME VARIANTS IN ENDEMIC REGIONS OF KENYA.



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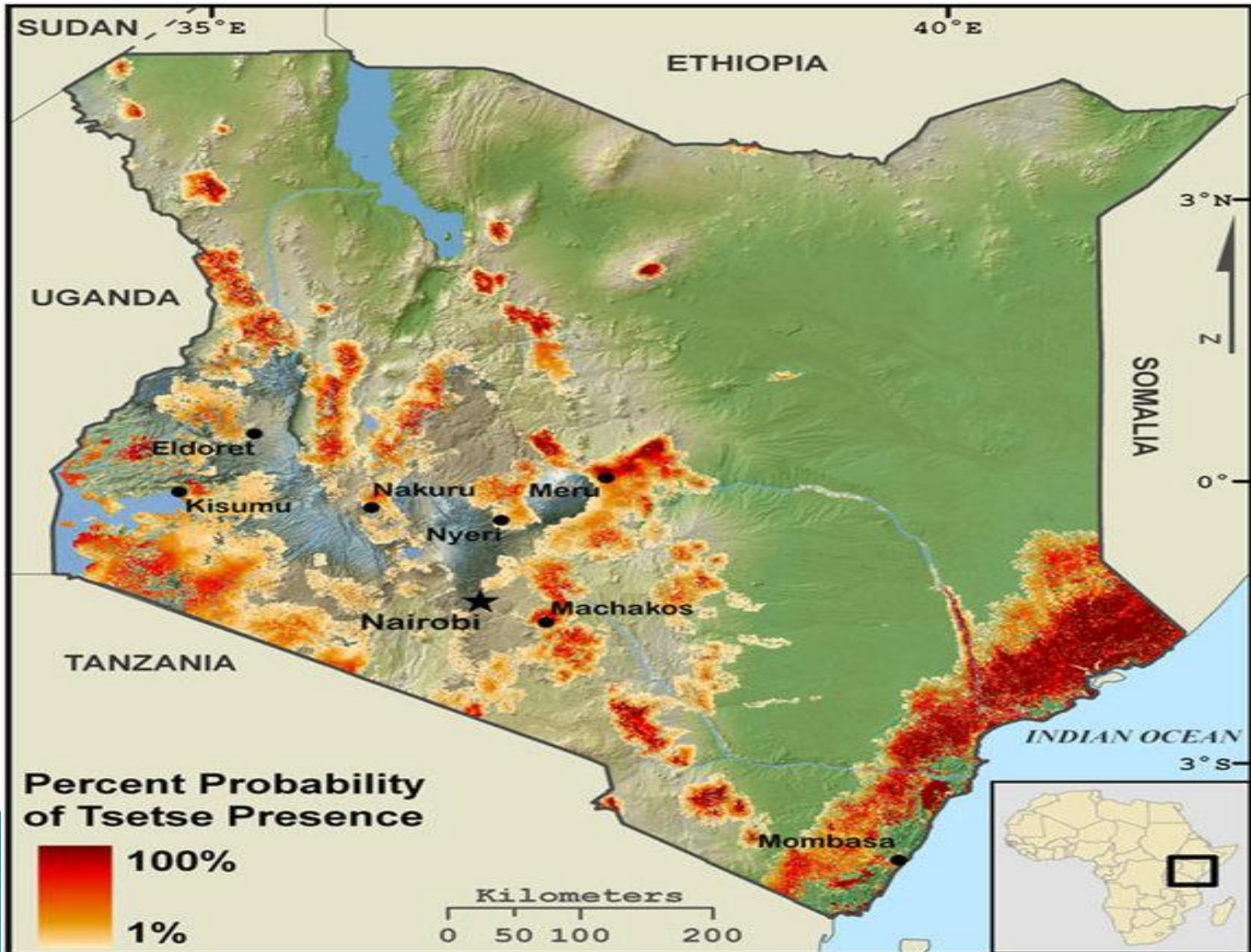
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I56/75314/2014



INTRODUCTION

- Trypanosomes cause nagana in bovid animals living in sub-Saharan Africa.
- They are transmitted by tsetse flies (*Glossina fuscipes*, *G. Palpalis* and *G. morsitans*).
- Vaccine and new drug development initiatives are not feasible possibilities in the near future.
- Drug resistance of the current chemotherapies has become widespread .

TSETSE PRESENCE IN KENYA





INTRODUCTION

In Kenya currently used drugs are in **Diminazene, Isometadim** and **Homidium** groups.

Main mechanisms of drug action are:-

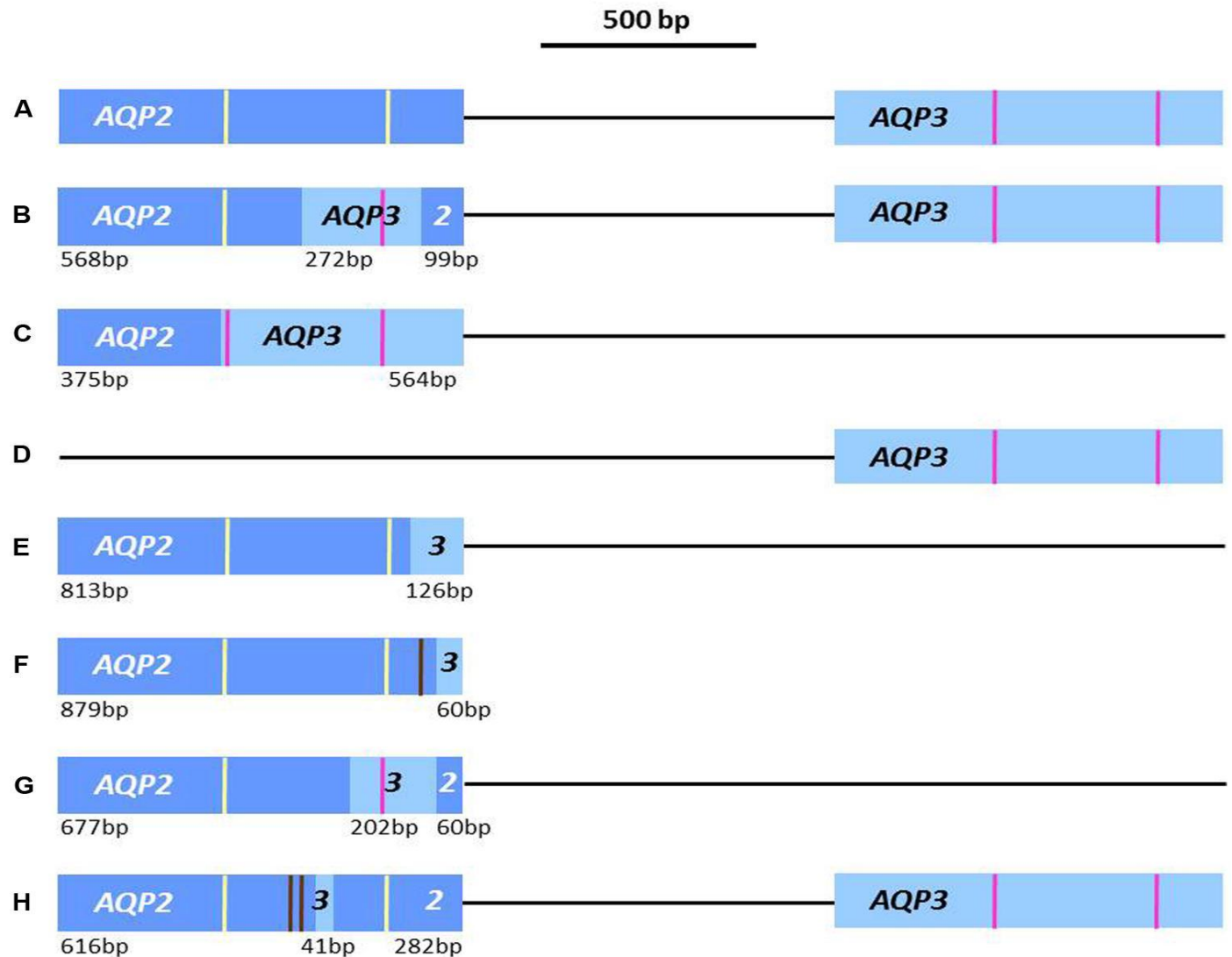
- Adenosine Transporters - gene of interest denoted as **AT /P2 (Adenosine Transporter)**
- Aquaglyceroporin Channels – gene of interest denoted as **HAPT 1 (High Affinity Pentamidine Transporter)**



ADENOSINE TRANSPORTERS

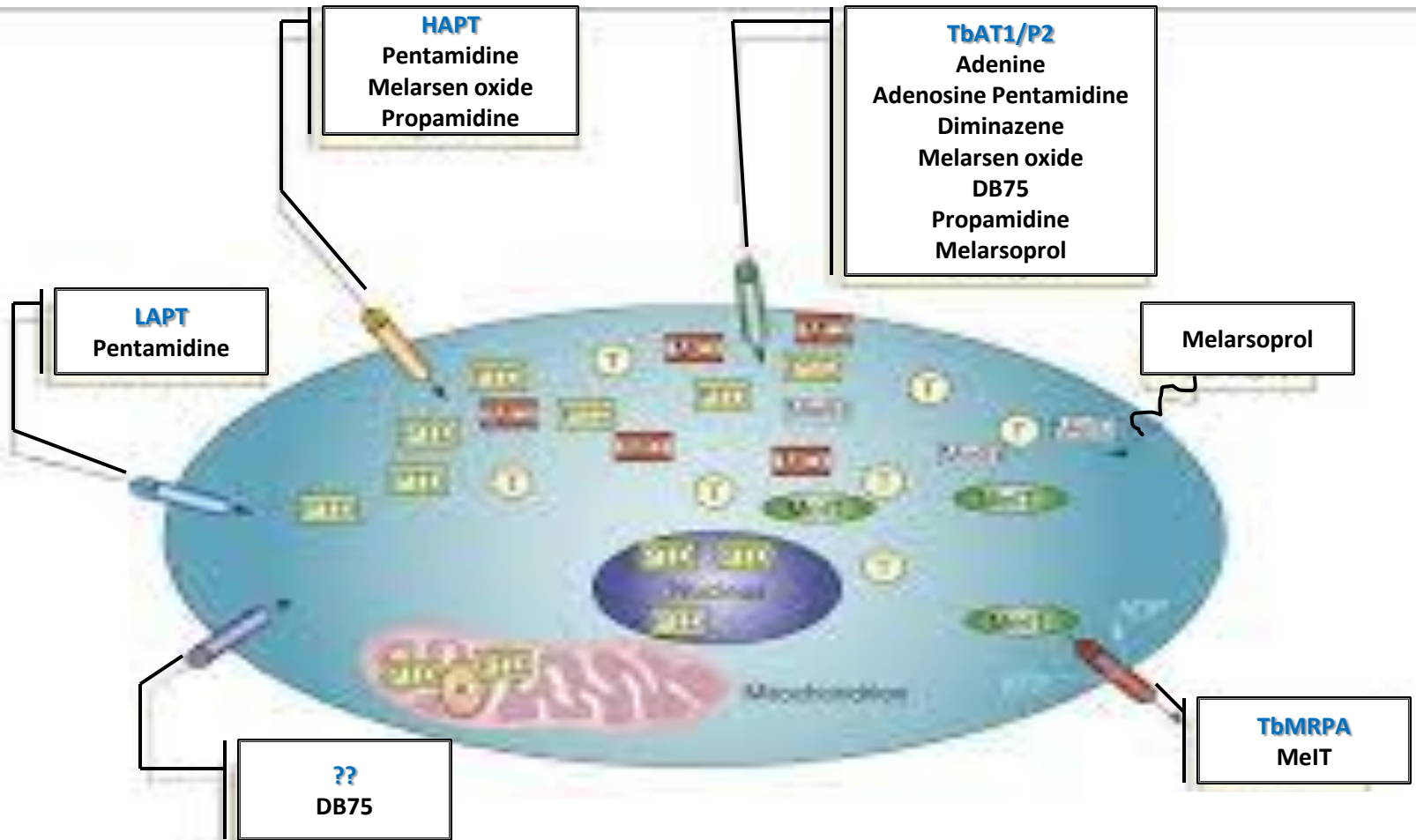
- Purine salvage is essential for the survival of trypanosomes, and this is facilitated by uptake using these transporters.
- They are sufficiently different from their mammalian homologs making them ideal drug targets.
- They have been characterized as they are key in the uptake of most trypanocides.
- Secondary uptake systems do exist for all these drugs, unfortunately.
- The loss of this transporter may be a necessary but not sufficient condition for resistance to be expressed.

AQUAGLYCEROPORIN ALLELE



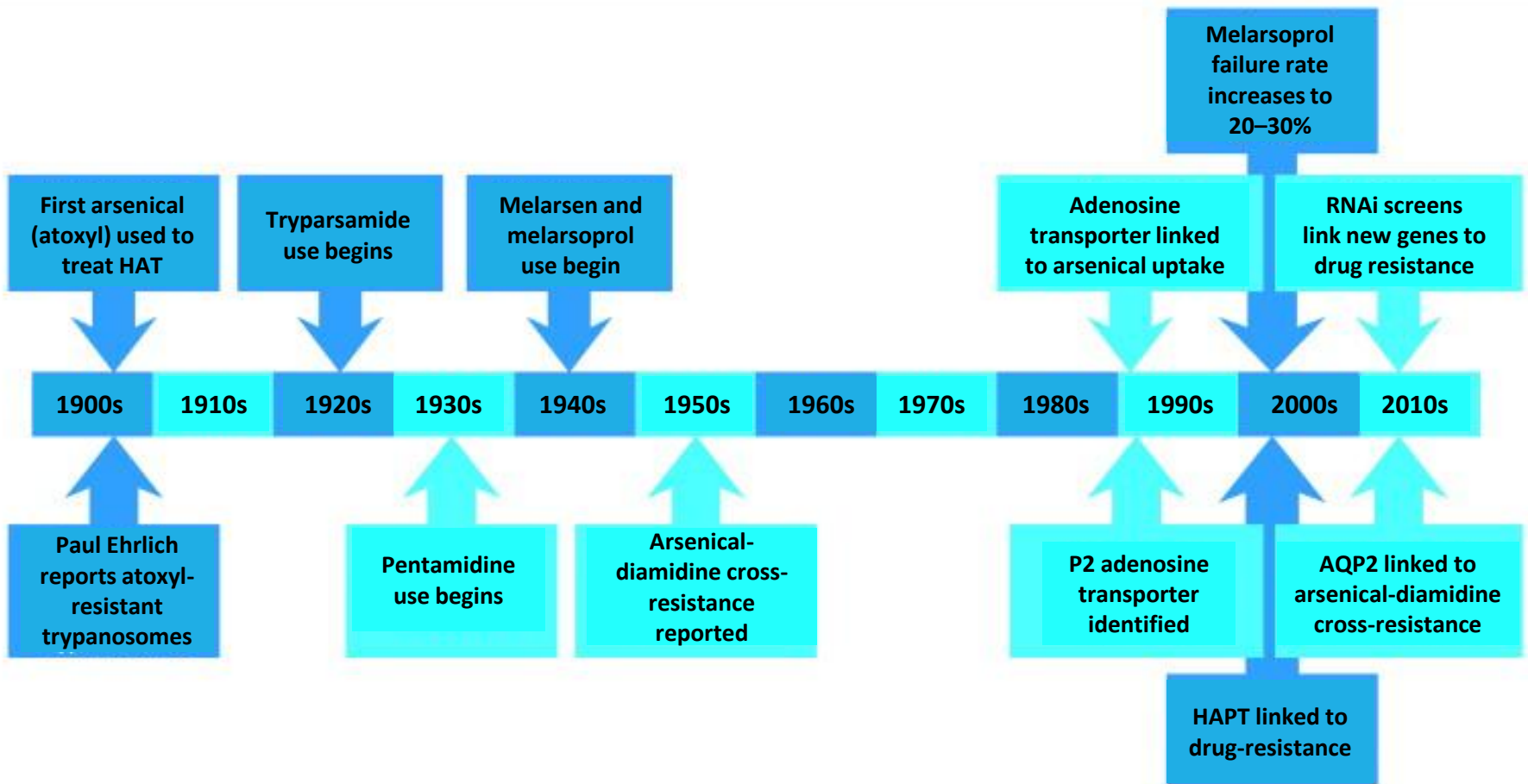


DRUGS AND DRUG TARGETS





HISTORY OF TRYPANOCIDAL RESISTANCE





MAJOR AIMS OF THE STUDY

- To characterize previously studied biomarkers that confer multi-drug resistance to trypanosomes that are endemic to Kenya (Shimba Hills) using genome sequencing approaches.
- The molecular tools developed can then be applied to the development of variant specific multiplex diagnostic tools .
- Create a platform from which policies advocating for judicious trypanocide use by farmers can be encouraged.



JUSTIFICATION

- AAT creates huge disease burden.
- Detection of new reservoirs means increase in cross-resistance patterns.
- Need to understand drug use practices and how they are contributing to development of resistance.
- Our understanding of trypanosome nucleoside transporters and channels has increased in the past decade.
- Much is yet to be done as details are needed from epidemic foci which vary greatly in resistance patterns.
- This knowledge can help in selective design of diagnostic tools and drug targets.



Research Question

Are there multi-drug resistant trypanosome variants in Kenya and could their drug targets be useful as potential drug diagnostic tools?

Hypothesis

There are multi-drug resistant trypanosome variants in Kenya and their drug targets can be useful as potential diagnostic tools.

General Objective

Determine AT/P2 and HAPT1 variants in trypanosomes obtained from cattle living in nagana endemic regions in Kenya.

Specific Objectives

- Identify AT/P2 and HAPT1 gene polymorphisms in trypanosomes living in nagana endemic regions in Kenya.
- Determine variant specific and allelic differences and prevalences of the trypanosomes obtained from cattle living in nagana endemic regions in Kenya.

METHODOLOGY



Study design and sampling

- 30 Randomly selected farmers from Kwale county will be interviewed using an APP (**OpenDataKit**).
- Cattle (210) will be sampled, 7 from each farmer.
- Older samples will be obtained from the **ILRI - AZIZI** repository .

PCR Amplification

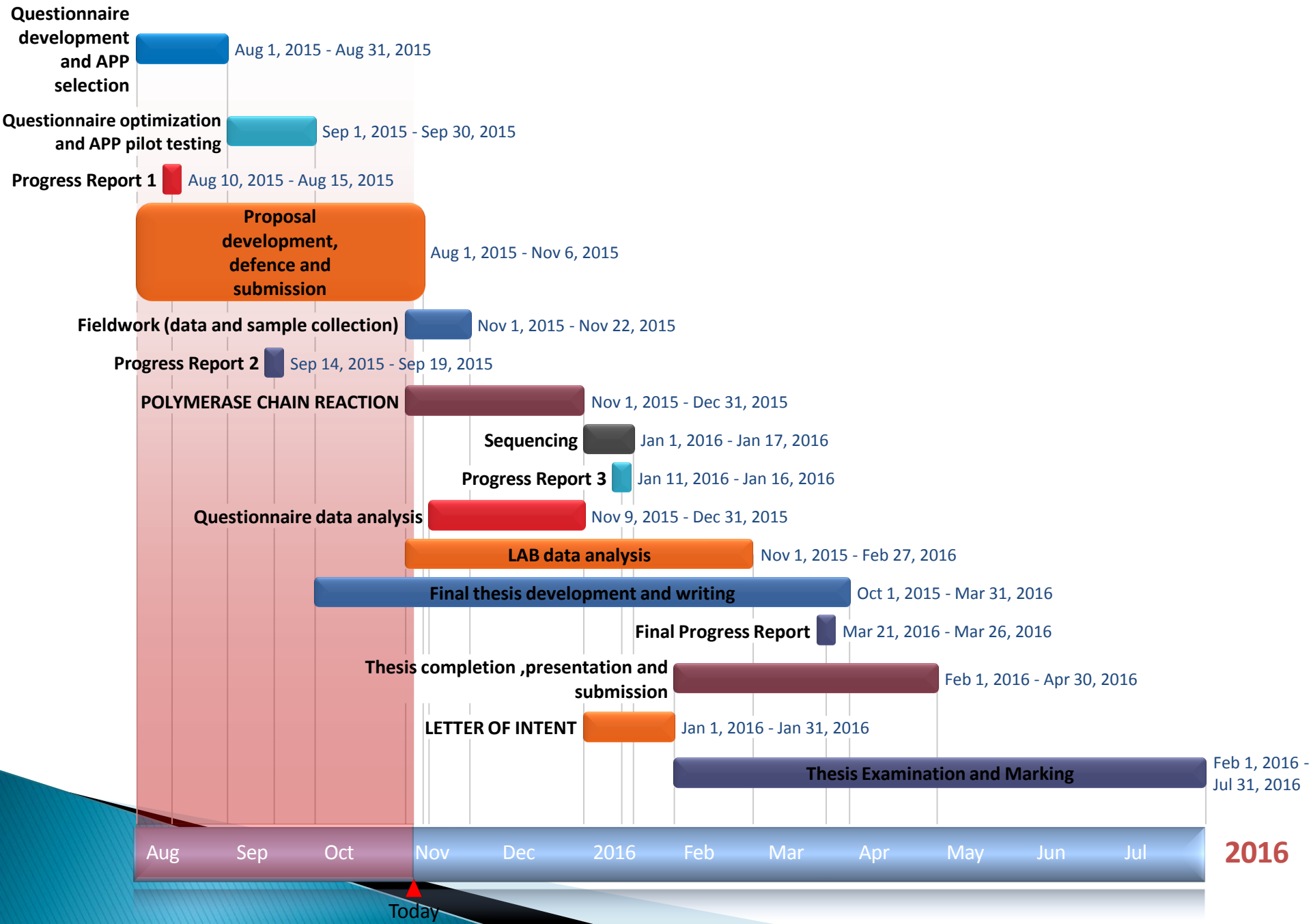
- To detect trypano-positive samples and distinguish between trypanosome species.
- To amplify target loci (HAPT1 and AT/P2).
- Sequencing outsourced to **Macrogen** (South Korea).

METHODOLOGY

Data analysis

- **Bio Edit** – For analysis of nucleotide polymorphisms from aligned DNA sequence data
- **Artemis Comparison Tool** - Sequence comparisons to determine species variations
- Database to be analysed using **WEKA**.







BUDGET

Category	Supplier	Description	Units	Total Cost
PCR Reagents	Qiagen	500 run kit	1	103,950 kshs
Gel electrophoresis	Bioline	1–10 kb (200 lanes)	1	45,528 kshs
Sequencing	Macrogen	Outsourced	N/A	700,000 kshs
Lab Consumables	Bioline			384,522 kshs
Field consumables	Bioline			200,000 kshs
Stationery costs	UNES	Printing, Airtime, Data		50,000 kshs
Total				1,484,000 kshs



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CEBIB Faculty

**Cattle farmers from Mbegani and Kizibe areas of Kwale County
Kwale County Director and Deputy of Veterinary Services**

Supervisors

Dr. Lillian Wambua

Dr. Benard Kulohoma

Colleagues

Inertia Ibrahim Wangwe

Solomon Kihara Wangóru



Wabeeja
 Medawagse
 Mersi
 unalchéesh
 Tingki
 Komapsumnida
Shukuria
 Paldies
 Hatur
Tashakkur
 Maketai
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