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UZ - UCSF
Collaborative Research Programme
in Women's Health



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Additional Specimen Collection: Zimbabwean Experience from PBMC and Hair Collection.

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Presentation Outline

- Background
- Rationale for PBMC and Hair collection
- Preparation for implementation
- Implementation for collection
- Challenges and what made it easy in implementation
- Conclusion

Background



Enrolled 630 participants

Oral Arm

381

Gel Arm

249

Rationale for PBMC and Hair Collection

- Objective measurements of adherence to product use
- Previously used strategies in VOICE
- Plasma drug concentration
- Intracellular drug levels
- Hair drug concentrations
- Good acceptability rates for hair collection

Preparation for Implementation

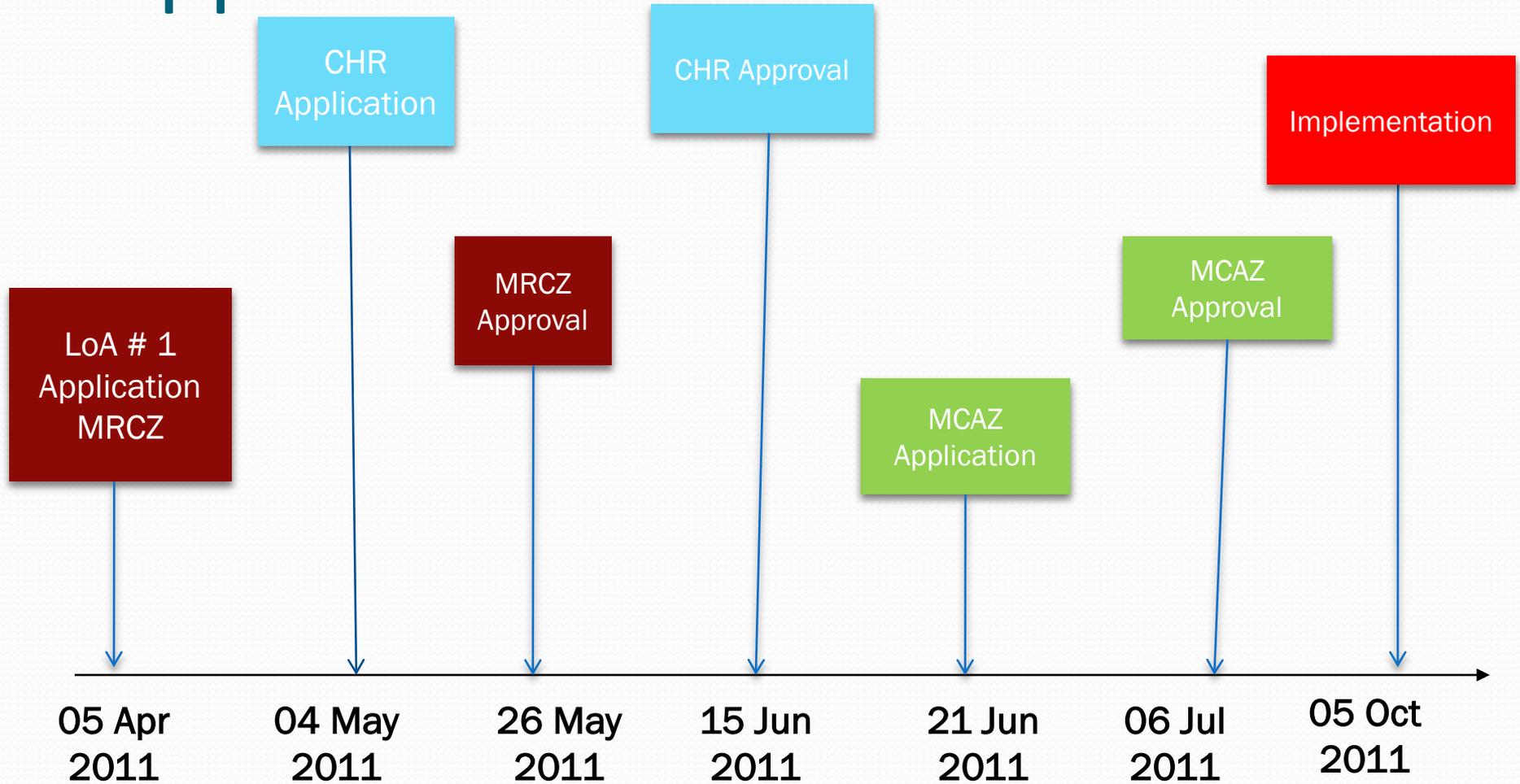
- **Consultation with CAB members, Stakeholders and the Community**

Questions asked by CAB Members

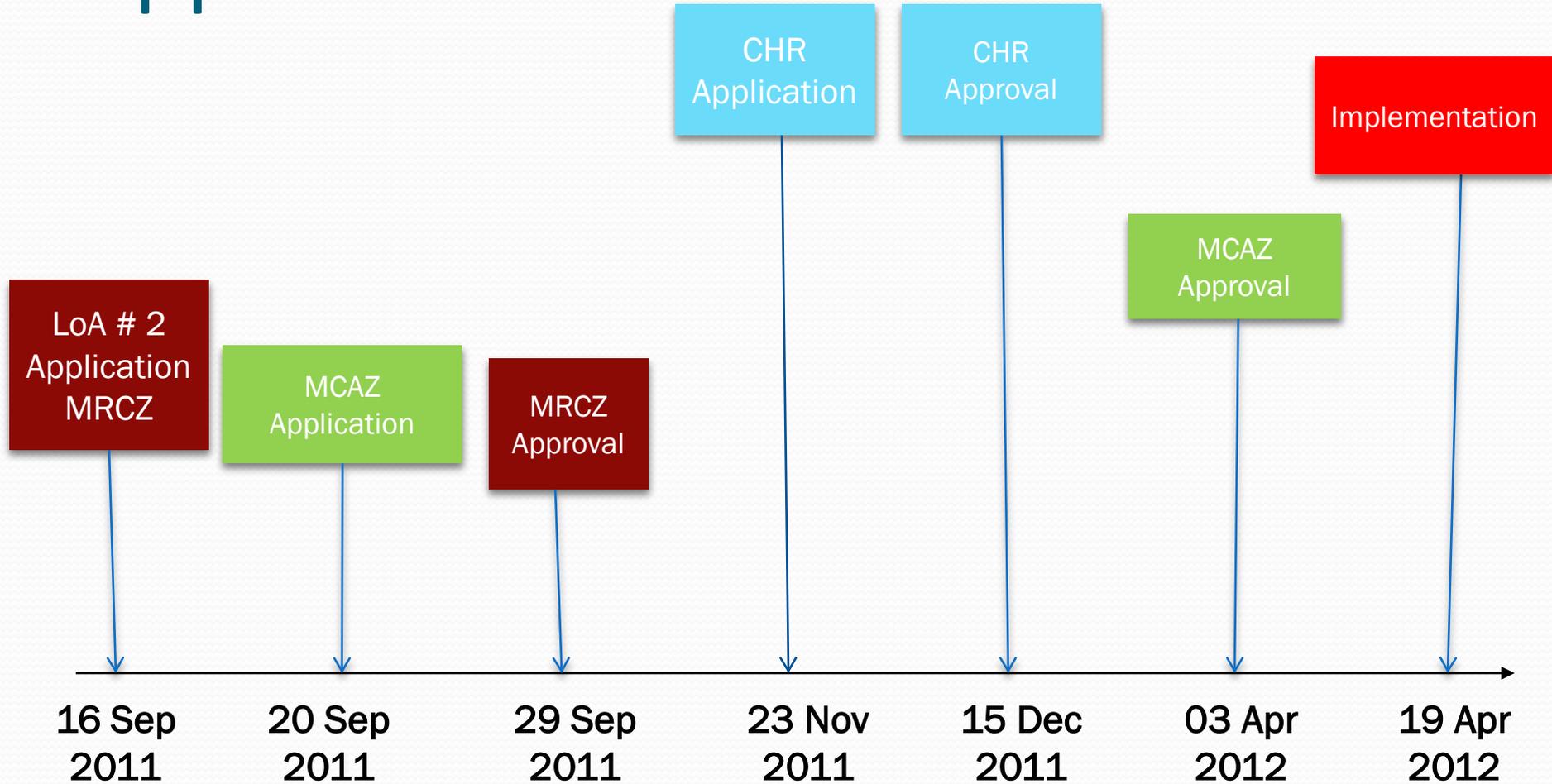
- Is it common practice to test for adherence in hair samples? This is a new concept even to the CAB members; what is the site going to do so that people in the community especially participants understand this concept?
- How much hair is going to be collected?
- How is the hair going to be extracted and how are the participants going to be compensated for messing up their hair styles?
- How conclusive are the test results?

PBMC Collection Regulatory

Approval Process



Hair Collection Regulatory Approval Process



PBMC Collection



PBMC Collection

- Implemented - 05 Oct 2011
- PBMC Schedule
- Total participants who consented and had blood for PBMC collected = 532.
- Total number of refusals = 11
- ✓ Too much blood draw
- ✓ Frightening sight of too many blood tubes

PBMC Collection: Challenges

- Difficult blood draws
- ✓ Clotted blood
- Split visits leading to increased workload
- Missed PBMC CRF Completion

What made PBMC collection easy?

- The staff was adequately trained
- The informed consent was precise and clear
- Clear counselling messages to participants

Hair Collection



Hair Collection Implementation

- Implemented 19 APR 12
- Study staff concern
- Known African cultural-beliefs and superstitions
- Participants' experiences.
- Schedule of hair collection
- Total participants who consented and had hair collected = 45.
- 3 Refusals
- ✓ All not interested

Challenges and what made it easy in hair collection

Challenges:

- Newly Plaited hair
- Short Hair
- Bald head

Hair Collection was made easy by:-

- Availability of full kit
- Clear instructions
- Adequately trained staff
- Clear, concise informed consent

Conclusion:

- Establishing common ground
- VOICE has come to an end.

Thank you

- Participants
- CAB
- Zim Site Staff





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