In addition to suffering from infectious diseases, the population of sub-Saharan Africa is increasingly burdened by non-communicable diseases. Evidence-based solutions, however, are not a matter of course. The CEBHA+ consortium aims to build long-term capacity and infrastructure for evidence-based healthcare and public health, including primary research, evidence synthesis and transfer of research findings into policy and practice. The partners will focus on diabetes, hypertension and road traffic injuries as priority concerns.
The population of sub-Saharan Africa is affected by a considerable disease burden. In addition to HIV/AIDS, malaria and other infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and unintentional injuries are the main causes of illness and death. Inadequate human resources, a weak healthcare infrastructure and limited capacities pose enormous challenges in sub-Saharan Africa. Moreover, inefficient prevention and treatment measures are straining resources in already overstretched health systems.

The overarching goal of the African-German research network CEBHA+ is to establish long-term capacity and infrastructure for evidence-based healthcare and public health in sub-Saharan Africa. The consortium intends to strengthen African research institutions as well as to build competence in the understanding and rapid uptake of evidence in health system institutions. In doing so, CEBHA+ adopts a population perspective, which encompasses both preventive and curative health care.

CEBHA+ has defined diabetes, hypertension and road traffic injuries as priority research areas that are meaningful to African decision-makers. Through robust interdisciplinary research to develop, evaluate and implement interventions, combined with evidence synthesis, the consortium intends to fill major gaps in the existing evidence base and to overcome the disconnect between primary research, evidence synthesis and rapid implementation of findings. The long-term vision is to establish CEBHA+ centres of excellence as a place where decision-makers can seek reliable advice.

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