

Comments from Dr. Lorenzo Savioli

Dear Elie,

Professor Fenwick has asked me to comment on your draft blog stating that you will not be donating to SCI but instead to Against Malaria Foundation. Having read your blog I am amazed. If I were in your position, and knowing what I do about SCI they would receive a high percentage of what I had to give. Schistosomiasis affects over 200 million people and evidence shows that it can be controlled and even eliminated if populations at risk receive precious treatment. SCI is one of the very few groups that has worked hard to assure this is undertaken in the poorest areas of sub-Saharan Africa.

They have a dedicated team of enthusiastic scientists who have worked with WHO for 12 years, even before the whole concept of NTDs was developed, to move the control of all worms forwards and bring relief to over 100 million children in Africa. Together we are making a huge difference, and the unrestricted funding they have received so far on Givewells recommendation is surely the best value ever. Please do not stop now - they are reaching more and more people in places never reached before like Ethiopia and DRC, and if funding were to stop their work would surely suffer as would the children in Africa that need to be regularly reached with precious treatment. Schistosomiasis does not receive the same attention of other diseases and shifting your recommendation will really be disastrous.

Best regards,
Lorenzo Savioli