

## ASCENT DATA USE AND SHARING

For the sake of transparency and reproducibility, all deidentified research datasets may be shared with the study sponsor overseeing research with permissions from countries

Data will be de-identified before release for sharing. Where there are indirect identifiers that could lead to deductive disclosure (e.g. name or location of health facility), these will be modified or removed from the dataset.

The ASCENT project is committed to protect the professional interests of the local co-investigators and to build scientific capacity among early career consortium investigators in participating countries. The project will therefore ensure that there will be a period of exclusive access to the data for researchers from the ASCENT consortium and local research community in each participating country.

### **Period of exclusive use**

Researchers from the ASCENT consortium (referred to as *study team*) who collected data have a legitimate interest in benefiting from their investment of time and effort. The ASCENT consortium also has a commitment to supporting capacity building for early career consortium researchers and local research communities in participating countries. Therefore, in each participating country, the study team and the local research community will have a period of exclusive access to the data for a defined period.

1. Exclusive use will be for a fixed period of 2 (two) years after the data lock, during which time the primary results will be published.

2. De-identified analysis datasets for the primary publications will be released as required by the journal, for replication purposes (“minimal data set”). Analysis datasets supporting other manuscripts will be posted as required by journals at the time of publication.

3. This period of exclusive access will maximise publications from the ASCENT early career consortium researchers and will also be opened to the local research community in each participating country to exploit the data before the full dataset is released on open-access.

During the period of exclusive use, the ASCENT study team and local research community with approved publication concepts are provided access to ASCENT de-identified data by submission of a signed Data Access Agreement. Researchers agree that they will only use the data for the analyses in the approved publication concept.

During this period of exclusive use, requests made by the ASCENT study team will be reviewed by the ASCENT Trial Management Group. Requests made by the local research community, external to the ASCENT study team, are overseen by the ASCENT Technical Advisory Group (TAG). Access to and use of data will be restricted to projects approved by an ethics committee.

Local researchers, external to the ASCENT study team, who are granted access to the data are encouraged to engage with the ASCENT study team to ensure they have sufficient understanding of the study and the data elements.

### **After the period of exclusive use**

After the period of exclusive use, de-identified data will be made available to users outside of the ASCENT team and the local research community via a publicly available data repository. Data access is restricted to non-commercial use only (creative commons non-commercial licensing) and for projects approved by an ethics committee.

Any publications arising from the shared data must acknowledge the investigators who collected the data, the institutions involved, and the funding sources. A standard acknowledgement statement will be provided.