## Building a Lab on a Chip

## **Digital Diagnostics for Africa Network**

## The Problem

- In Africa, many poor communities don't have access to good diagnostic testing.
- This is because these tests usually take place in expensive, high-tech laboratories.



## The Solution

- With digital diagnostic technology, tests can be done quickly and cheaply, with no need for a lab.
- For example, The Digital Diagnostics for Africa Network have developed a lab-on-chip platform called Lacewing. Lacewing uses an array of sensors on a microchip to test for parasite DNA in a patient's blood.
- The test results can be sent to a smart phone app, so that healthcare staff can see in real-time whether the infection is spreading, and decide how to treat their patients.

This will be useful for diagnosing illness caused by parasites, like malaria.







How do you think these experts helped to develop this technology?

Biologists Parasitologists Electronic

Clinicians Epidemiologists Fieldworkers