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# **MALARIA: SITUAZIONE GLOBALE E STATO DELL'ARTE SUL TRATTAMENTO**

Biella, 28 gennaio 2011

- I. Note di storia**
- II. Epidemiologia**
- III. Roll Back Malaria**
- IV. Le linee-guida OMS**



Giovanni Verga, Novelle Rusticane, 1883 .

“È che la malaria v’entra nelle ossa col pane che mangiate, e se aprite bocca per parlare, mentre camminate lungo le strade soffocanti di polvere e di sole, e vi sentite mancar le ginocchia, o vi accasciate sul basto della mula che va all’ambio, colla testa bassa ...”

“.... spopolate, e li inchioda dinanzi agli usci delle case scalciate dal sole, tremanti di febbre sotto il pastrano, e con tutte le coperte del letto sulle spalle.”

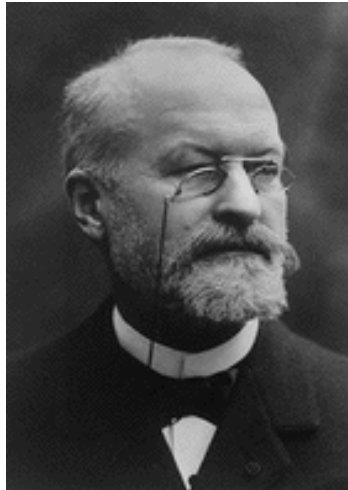


Carta della malaria in Italia, 1882

Carta della malaria in Italia, 1900



**Charles Louis Alphonse Laveran**  
(1845-1922)



1907: Premio Nobel per la medicina

“a riconoscimento del suo lavoro nella scoperta del ruolo  
giocato dai protozoi nel causare malattie”

**Camillo Golgi: 1843-1926**



1906: premio Nobel per la medicina

“come riconoscimento del suo lavoro sulla  
struttura del sistema nervoso”

[www.nobelprize.org](http://www.nobelprize.org)

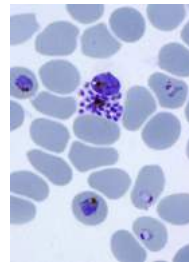


E. Marchiafava



A. Celli

**Marchiafava, Bignami, Bastianelli e Celli**  
dimostrano che le due forme erano diverse  
da una terza specie conosciuta come *P. falciparum* che era la più letale.



## Ronald Ross

1902: Premio Nobel per la Medicina



20 AGOSTO 1897: "MOSQUITO DAY"

**Vide un parassita pigmentato della malaria crescere nella parete dello stomaco di una "dappled-winged" zanzara che 4 giorni prima si era nutrita del sangue di un paziente con malaria.**

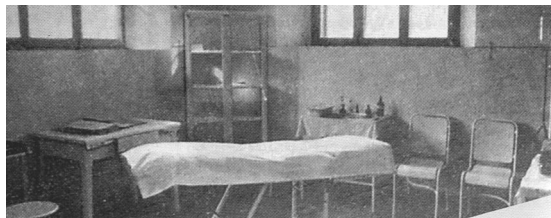


## La “crociata” antimalarica

Enti locali

- Stazioni sanitarie rurali
- Tassa ai datori di lavoro
- Scuole contadine

Croce Rossa Italiana



## La Grande Guerra

Medici e sanitari al fronte

Contadini maschi al fronte

Campi coltivati da donne e bambini non immuni

Mancata bonifica dei canali

Risorse rivolte alle attività belliche

Movimento di masse portatrici di parassiti

Trincee, scavi, crateri di bombe



# LA “BONIFICA INTEGRALE”

Bonifica idraulica



Bonifica agricola



Bonifica igienica

Legge 24 dicembre 1928 o legge “Mussolini”

- Profilassi con chinino
- Controllo dei vettori
- Organizzazione delle acque
- Sanificazione ambientale
- Utilizzazione di larvicidi
- Utilizzo di dispositivi di protezione



Casi di malaria da *P. falciparum* nelle truppe alleate



*An. labranchiae*



Malaria eradication campaign, Italy  
(from A. Coluzzi historical photo-set)



17 Novembre 1970

L'Organizzazione Mondiale della Sanità dichiara l'Italia libera dalla malaria.

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## MALARIA EPIDEMIOLOGY

TYPE	SPLEEN RATES	PARASITE RATES	DESCRIPTION
Hypo-endemic	Not exceeding 10% in children aged 2-9 years	Not exceeding 10% in children aged 2-9 years but may be higher for part of the year	Areas where there is little transmission and the effects, during an average year, upon the general population are unimportant
Meso-endemic	Between 11% and 50% in children aged 2-9 years	Between 11% and 50% in children aged 2-9 years	Typical found among rural communities in subtropical zones where wide geographical variations in transmission risk exist
Hyper-endemic	Constantly over 50% in children ages 2-9 years; also high in adults (over 25%)	Constantly over 50% among children ages 2-9 years	Areas where transmission is intense but seasonal and where <b>the immunity is insufficient in all age groups</b>
Holo-endemic	Constantly over 75% in children ages 2-9 years, but low in adults	Constantly over 75% among infants ages 0-11 months	Perennial, intense transmission resulting in <b>considerable degree of immunity</b> since early childhood

Snow, R.W.; Gilles, H.M. The epidemiology of malaria, "Essential Malariology", 2002

## MALARIA EPIDEMIOLOGY

WHO REGION	CASES/year		DEATH/year	
	NUMBER (MILLION)	P. falciparum (%)	NUMBER (THOUSAND)	UNDER 5 (%)
AFR	208	98	621	88
AMR	1	32	1	30
EMR	9	75	32	77
EUR	0	4	0	3
SEAR	24	56	27	34
WPR	2	79	2	41
TOTAL	243	93	708	85

World Malaria Report, 2009



## Human malaria parasites

<i>Plasmodium falciparum</i>	tertian	non relapsing	malignant
<i>Plasmodium vivax</i>	tertian	relapsing	benign
<i>Plasmodium ovale</i>	tertian	relapsing	benign
<i>Plasmodium malariae</i>	quartan	non relapsing	benign
<i>Plasmodium knowlesi</i>	daily	non relapsing	malignant (?)

*Plasmodium falciparum* is by far the main cause of malaria-related death

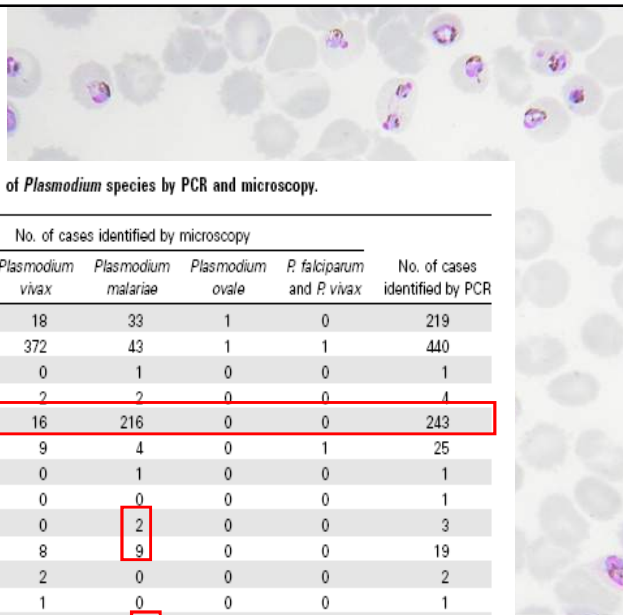


Table 1. Comparison of results for detection of *Plasmodium* species by PCR and microscopy.

PCR results	No. of cases identified by microscopy					No. of cases identified by PCR
	<i>Plasmodium falciparum</i>	<i>Plasmodium vivax</i>	<i>Plasmodium malariae</i>	<i>Plasmodium ovale</i>	<i>P. falciparum</i> and <i>P. vivax</i>	
<i>P. falciparum</i>	167	18	33	1	0	219
<i>P. vivax</i>	23	372	43	1	1	440
<i>P. malariae</i>	0	0	1	0	0	1
<i>P. ovale</i>	0	2	2	0	0	4
<i>Plasmodium knowlesi</i>	11	16	216	0	0	243
<i>P. falciparum</i> and <i>P. vivax</i>	11	9	4	0	1	25
<i>P. falciparum</i> and <i>P. malariae</i>	0	0	1	0	0	1
<i>P. falciparum</i> and <i>P. ovale</i>	1	0	0	0	0	1
<i>P. falciparum</i> and <i>P. knowlesi</i>	1	0	2	0	0	3
<i>P. vivax</i> and <i>P. knowlesi</i>	2	8	9	0	0	19
<i>P. vivax</i> and <i>P. malariae</i>	0	2	0	0	0	2
<i>P. vivax</i> and <i>P. ovale</i>	0	1	0	0	0	1
<i>P. ovale</i> and <i>P. knowlesi</i>	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	216	428	312	2	2	960

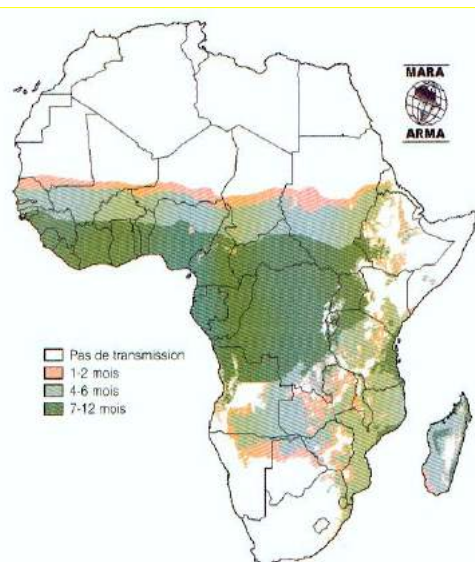
Cox-Singh j, Clin Infect Dis 2008; 46: 165



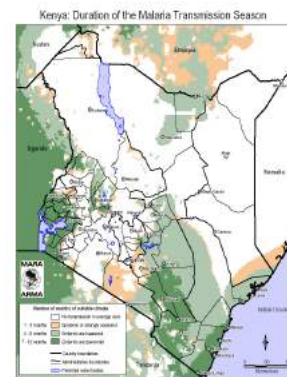


## Vectors of human malaria by continent

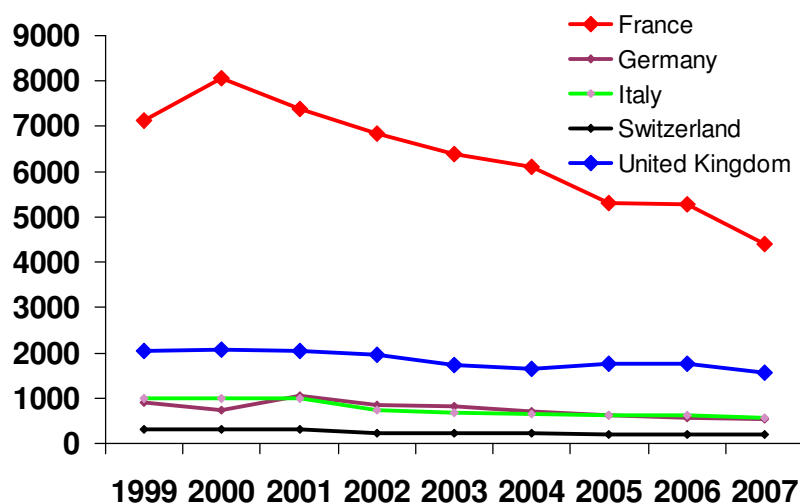
	Africa	Asia	Americas	Europe
<b>Genus</b>	<i>A. gambiae</i> <i>A. funestus</i> <i>A. nili</i> ...	<i>A. minimus</i> <i>A. dirus</i> <i>A. stephensi</i> ...	<i>A. albimanus</i> <i>A. darlingi</i> <i>A. acuasalis</i> ...	<i>A. maculipennis</i> <i>A. atroparvus</i> <i>A. superpictus</i> ...
<b>Endophilia</b>	-	-/+	-/+	++
<b>Anthropophilia</b>	+++	++	++	+
<b>Larval habitat</b>	Small vegetation-free ponds & puddles	Shallow and slow-flowing stream	Large ponds with flooding vegetation	Marshes



Modèle informatique illustrant la durée des saisons de transmission palustre en Afrique.

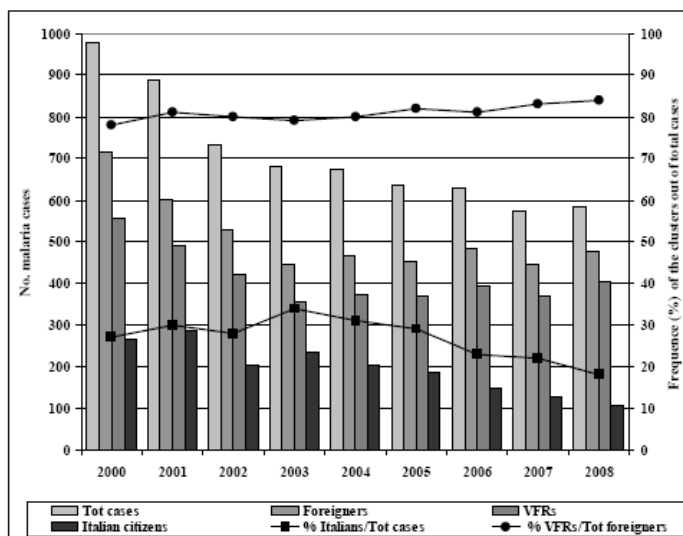


## TREND OF IMPORTED MALARIA CASES IN SELECTED EUROPEAN COUNTRIES



[http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/Health\\_Topics/malaria](http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/Health_Topics/malaria)  
<http://data.euro.who.int/CISID>

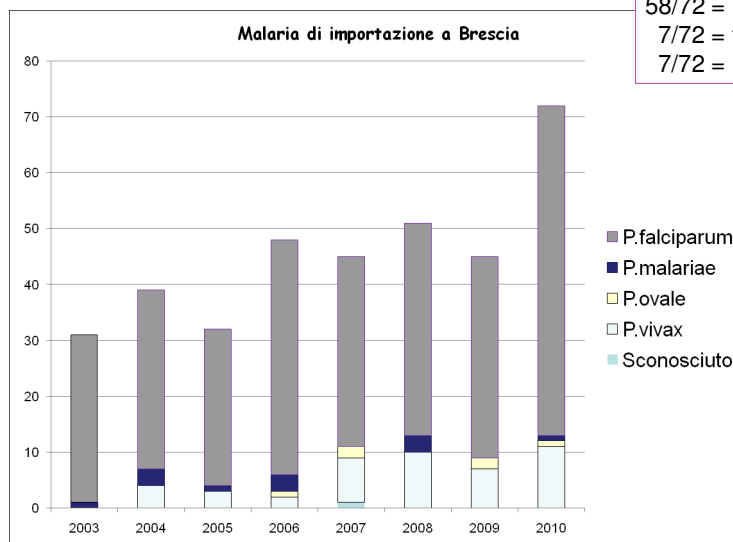
## IMPORTED MALARIA IN ITALY



Romi et al, Giorn. It. Med. Trop., 2010: 35-38

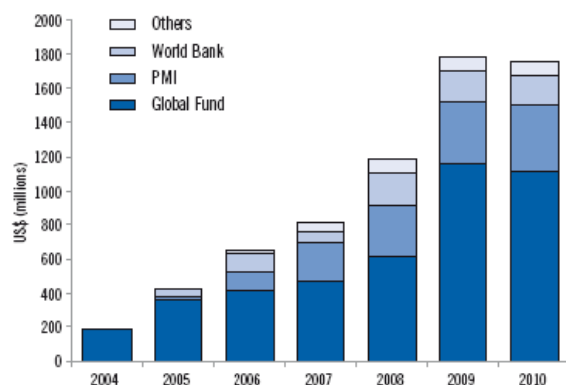
## I NOSTRI DATI

### 2003-2010



2010:  
58/72 = migranti  
7/72 = figli di migranti  
7/72 = italiani

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**Figure 3.1** Funding commitments of the Global Fund, the US President's Malaria Initiative, World Bank, and other agencies

World Malaria Report, 2010



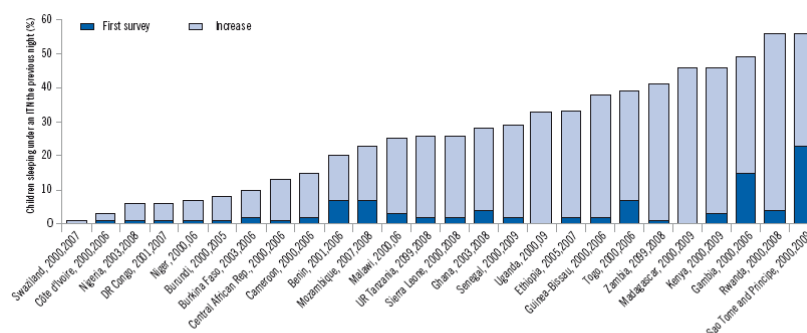


Figure 4.4 Trends in percentage of children sleeping under an ITN for countries with more than one survey, 2000–2009

World Malaria Report, 2010

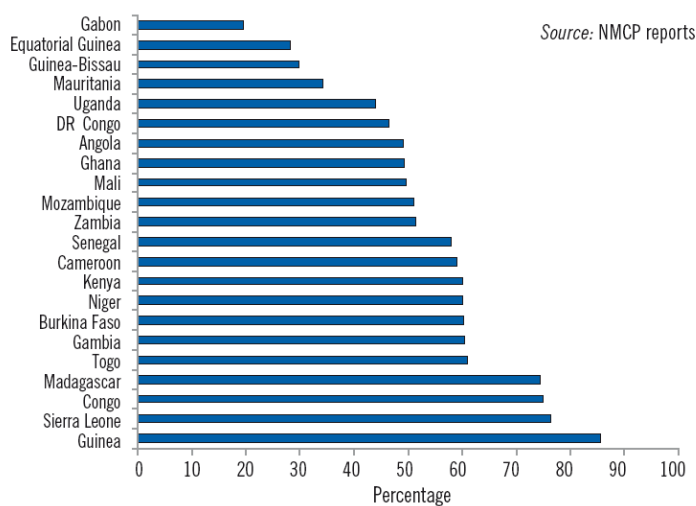
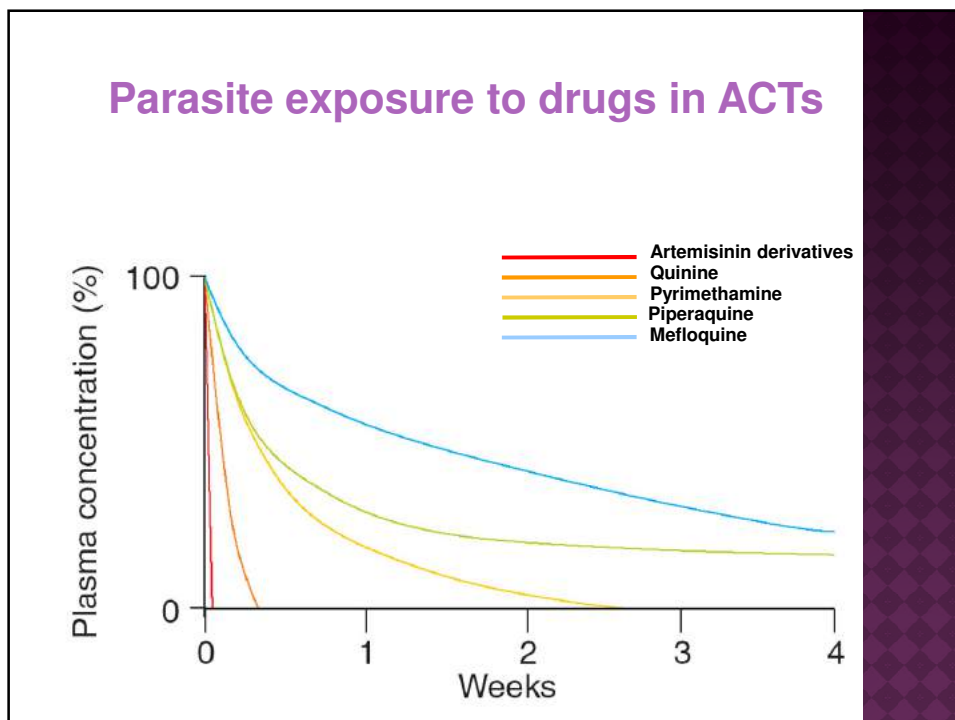
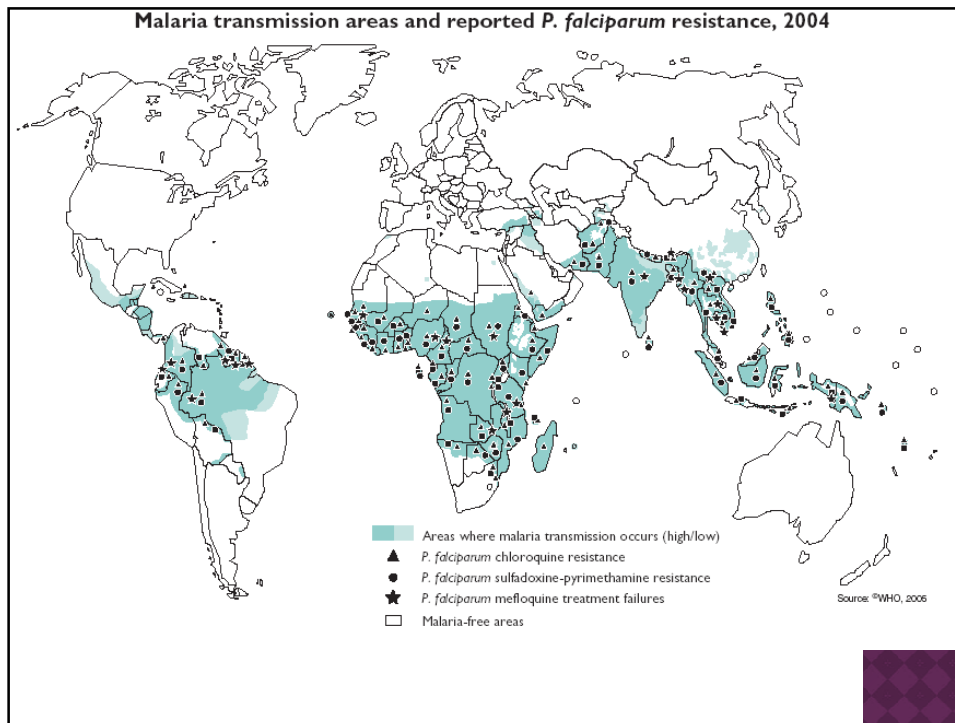


Figure 5.12 Proportion of women attending antenatal care receiving the second dose of IPT

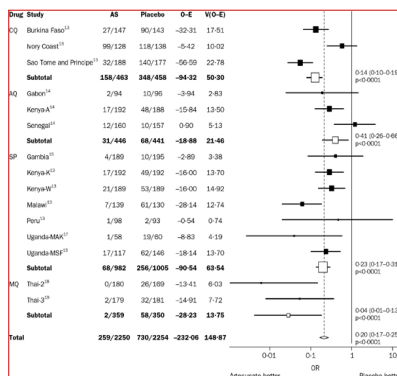
World Malaria Report, 2010



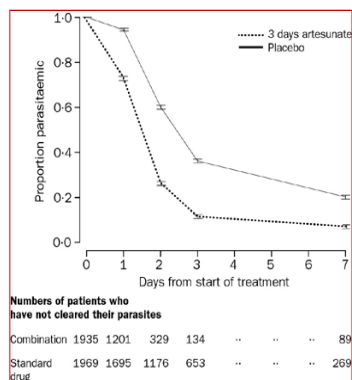


## Artesunate combo for treatment of malaria: meta-analysis

Parasitological failure by day 14:  
3-day artesunate vs placebo



Survival curve to time  
for parasite clearance



International Artemisinin Study Group, *The Lancet*, 2004; 363: 9-17

## ARTEMISININ-BASED COMBINATION TREATMENT (ACT)

- ✓ Combination in which one component is artemisinin and its derivatives (artesunate, artemether, dihydroartemisinin)
  - ✓ Artemether plus lumefantrine
  - ✓ Artesunate plus amodiaquine
  - ✓ Artesunate plus mefloquine
  - ✓ Artesunate plus sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine
  - ✓ Dihydroartemisinin plus piperaquine
- ✓ The artemisinin produce rapid clearance of parasitemia and rapid resolution of the symptoms
- ✓ Rapid elimination
- ✓ Reduction of gametocyte carriage

Guidelines for the treatment of malaria, second edition, 2010





## Stop malaria now!



cases



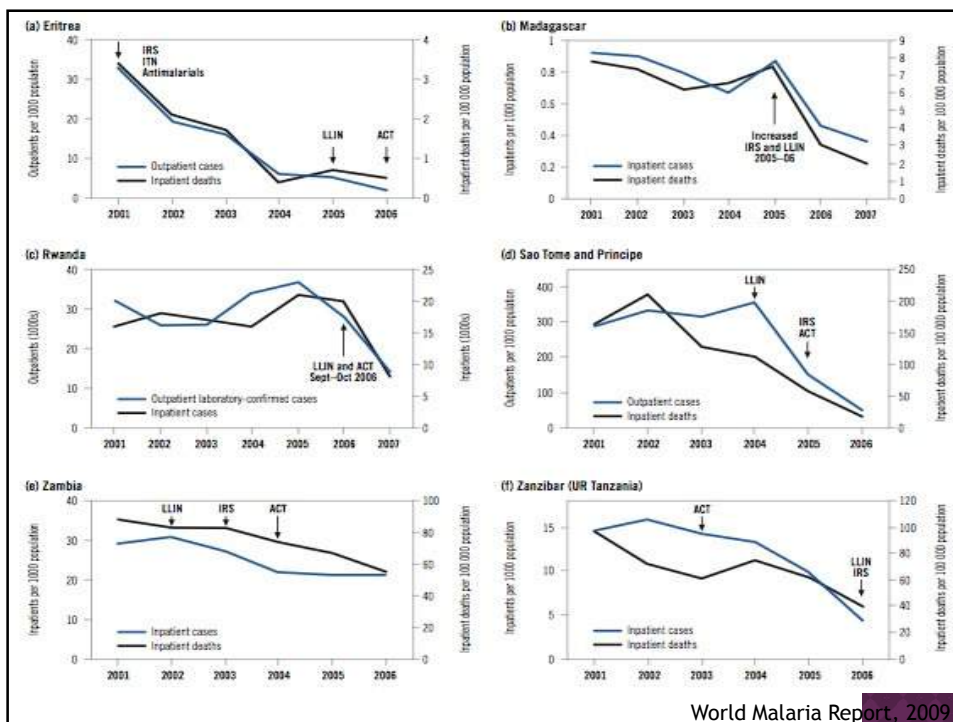
deaths

TABLE 5.2

### ADOPTION OF POLICIES FOR MALARIA TREATMENT IN WHO REGIONS

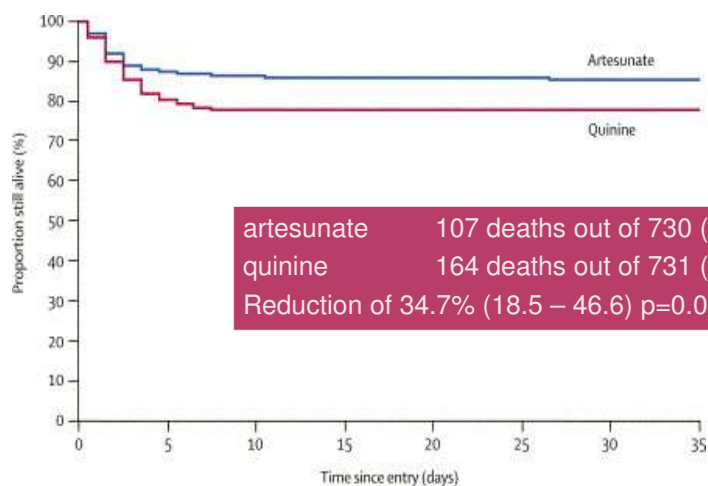
POLICY	AFRICAN	AMERICAS	EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN	EUROPEAN	SOUTH-EAST ASIA	WESTERN PACIFIC	GRAND TOTAL
<i>Number of endemic countries and territories</i>	43	23	12	8	10	10	106
<i>Number of P. falciparum endemic countries and territories</i>	42	18	8		9	9	86
ACT is used for treatment of <i>P. falciparum</i>	42	9	8		9	9	77
ACT is free of charge for all age groups in public sector	24	6	9		6	7	52
ACT is free of charge only for < 5 years in public sector	5				2	1	8
ACT delivered at community level	25	2	1		4	4	36
Pre-referral treatment with quinine/artemether IM/artesunate suppositories	32	2	7		7	6	54
Therapeutic efficacy monitoring is undertaken	25	6	5		5	7	48

World Malaria Report, 2010



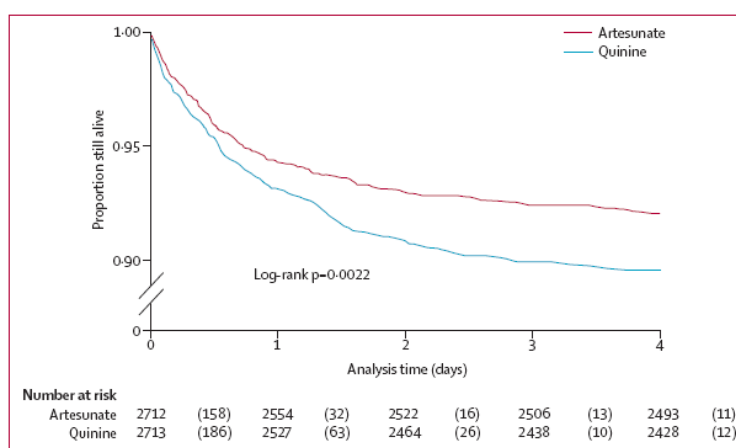
World Malaria Report, 2009

### Artesunato vs chinino nel trattamento della malaria grave. Lo studio SEQUAMAT



SEQUAMAT, *The Lancet*, 2005; 366: 7171-25

### Artesunato vs chinino nel trattamento della malaria grave nei bambini in Africa. Lo studio AQUAMAT



**Figure 2: Kaplan-Meier curves comparing survival in African children with severe falciparum malaria treated with either parenteral artesunate or quinine**

The numbers in parentheses are the deaths during the indicated time. In eight patients the exact time of death during the night was missing and was estimated as 2359 h.

www.thelancet.com Vol 376 November 13, 2010

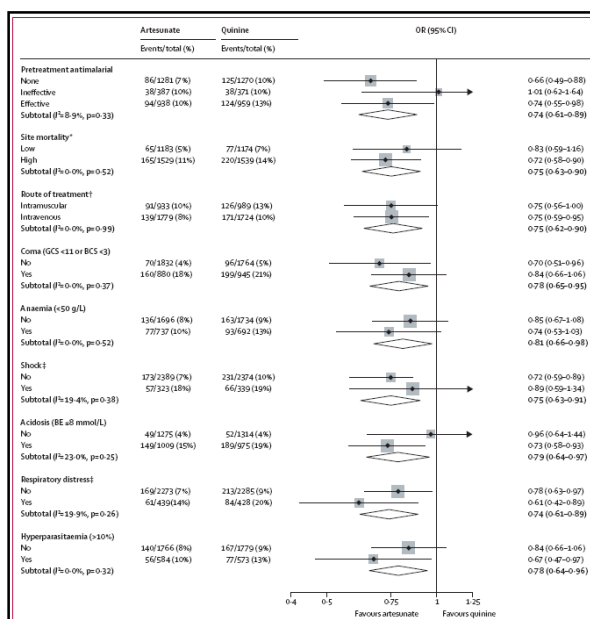
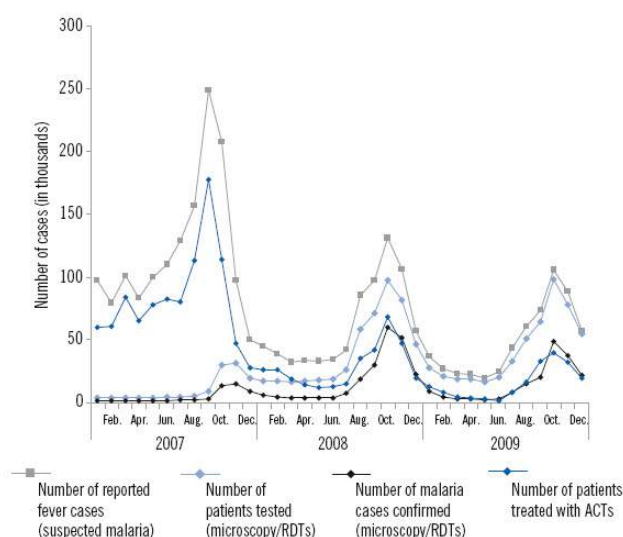


Figure 3: Treatment effect in protocol-specified subgroups

The forest plot shows odds ratios and 95% CIs. The size of the squares is proportional to the size, and therefore weight, of the subgroup. The diamonds show the combined effect. The efficacy of antimalarial pretreatment was classified before study unblinding (see appendix p. 12). Hyperparasitaemia means greater than 10% of red cells parasitised. OR=odds ratio, GCS=Glasgow coma scale, BCS=Blairmore coma scale, BE=base excess. \*Site mortality classified as low if the site mortality rate was lower than the overall study mortality rate, and high if the site mortality rate was higher than the overall study mortality rate. †Classified according to centre policy (ten sites), classified according to individual data (one site). ‡Decompensated or compensated shock. §Denotes the percentage of total variation across resulting from heterogeneity rather than chance, with the p value of significance.

**Artesunato vs chinino nel trattamento della malaria grave nei bambini in Africa. Lo studio AQUAMAT**

www.thelancet.com Vol 376 November 13, 2010



**Figure Box 5.1** Trends in suspected, tested, confirmed and treated cases, Senegal 2007–2009

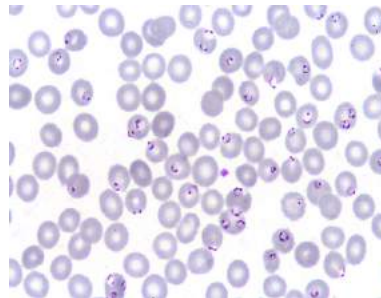
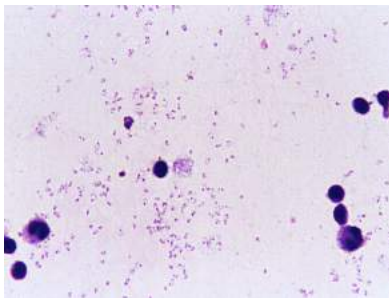
World Malaria Report, 2010



## Guidelines for the treatment of malaria, 2° edition

### MALARIA DIAGNOSIS

- ➔ Prompt parasitological confirmation by microscopy or alternatively by RDTs is recommended in all patients suspected of malaria before treatment is started.
- ⦿ Treatment solely on the basis of clinical suspicion should only be considered when a parasitological diagnosis is not accessible.



WHO, 2010

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## Guidelines for the treatment of malaria, 2° edition

### TREATMENT OF UNCOMPLICATED *P. FALCIPARUM* MALARIA

- ⦿ Artemisinin-based combination therapies (ACTs) are the recommended treatments for uncomplicated *P. falciparum* malaria.
- ⦿ The following ACTs are recommended:
  - artemether plus lumefantrine, artesunate plus amodiaquine, artesunate plus mefloquine, and artesunate plus sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine.
- ⦿ The choice of ACT in a country or region will be based on the level of resistance of the partner medicine in the combination.
- ⦿ Artemisinin and its derivatives should not be used as monotherapy.
- ⦿ Second-line antimalarial treatment:
  - alternative ACT known to be effective in the region;
  - artesunate plus tetracycline or doxycycline or clindamycin; any of these combinations to be given for 7 days;
  - quinine plus tetracycline or doxycycline or clindamycin; any of these combinations should be given for 7 days.

WHO, 2010

## Guidelines for the treatment of malaria, 2° edition (new recommendations)

### TREATMENT OF UNCOMPLICATED *P. FALCIPARUM* MALARIA

- ⦿ Artemisinin-based combination therapies should be used in preference to sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine (SP) plus amodiaquine (AQ) for the treatment of uncomplicated *P. falciparum* malaria.  
*Strong recommendation, moderate quality evidence.*
- ⦿ ACTs should include at least 3 days of treatment with an artemisinin derivative.  
*Strong recommendation, high quality evidence.*
- ⦿ Dihydroartemisinin plus piperaquine (DHA+PPQ) is an option for the first-line treatment of uncomplicated *P. falciparum* malaria worldwide.  
*Strong recommendation, high quality evidence.*
- ⦿ Addition of a single dose primaquine (0.75 mg/kg) to ACT treatment for uncomplicated falciparum malaria as an antigametocyte medicine, particularly as a component of pre-elimination or an elimination programme.

WHO, 2010

## Guidelines for the treatment of malaria, 2° edition

### TREATMENT OF UNCOMPLICATED *P. FALCIPARUM* MALARIA IN SPECIAL RISK GROUPS

#### ⊙ Pregnancy

##### *First trimester:*

- quinine plus clindamycin to be given for 7 days (artesunate plus clindamycin for 7 days is indicated if this treatment fails);
- an ACT is indicated only if this is the only treatment immediately available, or if treatment with 7-day quinine plus clindamycin fails or uncertainty of compliance with a 7-day treatment.

##### *Second and third trimesters:*

- ACTs known to be effective in the country/region or artesunate plus clindamycin to be given for 7 days, or quinine plus clindamycin to be given for 7 days.

#### ⊙ Lactating women:

- lactating women should receive standard antimalarial treatment (including ACTs) except for dapsone, primaquine and tetracyclines.

#### ⊙ Infants and young children:

- ACTs for first-line treatment in infants and young children with attention to accurate dosing and ensuring the administered dose is retained.

#### → ⊙ Travellers returning to non-endemic countries:

- atovaquone-proguanil;
- artemether-lumefantrine;
- quinine plus doxycycline or clindamycin.

WHO, 2010

## Guidelines for the treatment of malaria, 2° edition (new recommendations)

### TREATMENT OF SEVERE *P. FALCIPARUM* MALARIA

- ⊙ Intravenous (IV) artesunate should be used in preference to quinine for the treatment of severe *P. falciparum* malaria in adults.

*Strong recommendation, high quality evidence.*

WHO, 2010

## Guidelines for the treatment of malaria, 2° edition

### TREATMENT OF UNCOMPLICATED *P. VIVAX* MALARIA

- ⊙ Chloroquine combined with primaquine is the treatment of choice for chloroquine-sensitive infections.
- ⊙ In mild-to-moderate G6PD deficiency, primaquine 0.75 mg base/kg body weight given once a week for 8 weeks. In severe G6PD deficiency, primaquine is contraindicated and should not be used.
- ➔ ⊙ Where ACT (exception AS+SP) has been adopted as the first-line treatment for *P. falciparum* malaria, it may also be used for *P. vivax* malaria in combination with primaquine for radical cure. Artesunate plus sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine is not effective against *P. vivax* in many places.

(new recommendations)

### TREATMENT OF UNCOMPLICATED *P. VIVAX* MALARIA

- ⊙ In areas with chloroquine resistant *P. vivax*, artemisinin-based combination therapies (particularly those whose partner medicines have long half-lives) are recommended for the treatment of *P. vivax* malaria.  
*Weak recommendation, moderate quality evidence.*
- ⊙ At least a 14-day course of primaquine is required for the radical treatment of *P. vivax*.  
*Strong recommendation, very low quality evidence.*

WHO, 2010

*Am. J. Trop. Med. Hyg.*, 83(2), 2010, pp. 274-276  
doi:10.4269/ajtmh.2010.10-0128  
Copyright © 2010 by The American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

### Case Report: Combined Intravenous Treatment with Artesunate and Quinine for Severe Malaria in Italy

Alessandro Bartoloni,\* Lina Tomasoni, Filippo Bartalesi, Luisa Galli, Spartaco Sani, Sara Veloci, Lorenzo Zammarchi, Alessandro Pini, and Francesco Castelli

*Clinica Malattie Infettive, Dipartimento Area Critica Medico-Chirurgica, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Firenze, Italy; SOD Malattie Infettive e Tropicali, Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria Careggi, Firenze, Italy; Istituto Malattie Infettive e Tropicali, Università di Brescia, Brescia, Italy; Dipartimento di Pediatria, Università di Firenze, Firenze, Italy; UO Malattie Infettive, Spedali Riuniti Livorno, Livorno, Italy*

**Abstract.** Severe imported malaria is an important problem in European countries, where approximately 8,000 cases of *Plasmodium falciparum* malaria are reported each year. Although the World Health Organization recommends intravenous artesunate (IVA) as the treatment of choice for severe malaria in areas of low transmission, it is rarely used in Europe, because it is not yet available as a drug manufactured under Good Manufacturing Practices. We report a series of eight imported severe falciparum malaria cases treated with IVA combined with intravenous quinine (IVQ). This combined therapy was found to be efficacious, safe, and well-tolerated. The only observed death occurred in a young man who presented 10 days after the onset of symptoms. IVA plus IVQ treatment seems to be an acceptable approach, because the legal risks in using an unlicensed drug for treating a severe malaria case denies the patient the possibility of being treated with the most effective regimen.

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- V. Surprise! Matteelli!

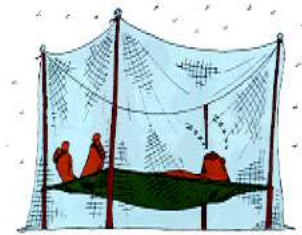
## Protection from mosquito bites

### Beneficial:

- ☒ Insecticide treated nets

### Likely to be beneficial:

- ☒ Air conditioning and electric fans
- ☒ Insecticide treated clothing
- ☒ Smoke
- ☒ Protective clothing
- ☒ Topical insect repellent



### Unknown effectiveness:

- ☒ Aerosol insecticides
- ☒ Insect buzzers and electrocuters

Croft, *BMJ* 2000; 321:154-60



## Controversies and Misconceptions in Malaria Chemoprophylaxis for Travelers

Lin H. Chen, MD

Mary E. Wilson, MD

Patricia Schlagenhauf, PhD



CONTROVERSIES IN MALARIA

**Context** Controversies in malaria prevention arise from the absence of data, conflicting data between different studies, conflicting recommendations, deviation of local practice from scientific data, and varying risk thresholds. Misconceptions about the seriousness of malaria, the tolerability of chemoprophylaxis drugs, and the efficacy and safety of repellents contribute to the controversies.

*Chen L. et al., JAMA, 2007; 2251-62*

### Variability in malaria prophylaxis prescribing across Europe: a Delphi method analysis.

Guido Calleri, Ron H Behrens, Zeno Bisoffi, Anders Bjorkman, Francesco Castelli, Joaquim Gascon, Federico Gobbi, Martin P Grobusch, Tomas Jelinek, Matthias L Schmid, Mauro Niero, Pietro Caramello, for TropNetEurop.

*Calleri G. et al Journal of Travel Medicine, 2008; 15: 294-301*

	Malaria risk	Type of prevention
Type I	Very limited risk of malaria transmission	Mosquito bite prevention only
Type II	Risk of <i>P. vivax</i> malaria only; or fully chloroquine-sensitive <i>P. falciparum</i>	Mosquito bite prevention plus chloroquine chemoprophylaxis
Type III <sup>a</sup>	Risk of <i>P. vivax</i> and <i>P. falciparum</i> malaria transmission, combined with emerging chloroquine resistance	Mosquito bite prevention plus chloroquine+proguanil chemoprophylaxis
Type IV	(1) High risk of <i>P. falciparum</i> malaria, in combination with reported antimalarial drug resistance; or (2) Moderate/low risk of <i>P. falciparum</i> malaria, in combination with reported high levels of drug resistance <sup>b</sup>	Mosquito bite prevention plus atovaquone-proguanil, doxycycline or mefloquine chemoprophylaxis (select according to reported resistance pattern)

<sup>a</sup> The areas where Type III prevention is still an option are limited to Nepal, Sri Lanka and Tajikistan, and parts of Colombia and India. If necessary, Type IV prevention can be used instead.

<sup>b</sup> Alternatively, when travelling to rural areas with multidrug-resistant malaria and only a very low risk of *P. falciparum* infection, mosquito bite prevention can be combined with stand-by emergency treatment (SBET).

ITH, 2010, WHO