

Publications

Editorial: Malaria eradication back on the table ([Open access](#))

Marcel Tanner & Don de Savigny

The Bulletin of the World Health Organization, Volume 86, Number 2 : 82

Although we lack sufficient knowledge, systems and tools to eradicate malaria today, we do have a window of political will and financial resources to refocus on the goal of effective control through universal coverage of appropriate interventions. The prerequisites for a successful start are: (i) a process of inclusive discourse to agree on global vision, goals and strategy; and (ii) a global plan for all endemic areas describing how, where and when we move from control towards elimination. What must distinguish the new era, especially in Africa, is a real rather than rhetorical emphasis on health systems.

News: An interview with Awa Marie Coll-Seck - Hopes and fears for malaria

([Open access](#))

The Bulletin of the World Health Organization, Volume 86, Number 2 : 91-92

Roll Back Malaria (RBM) was established by the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank in 1998 with the goal of halving global malaria infections by 2010. Dr Awa Marie Coll-Seck talks about her hopes for a new facility to provide the most effective antimalarials to developing countries at subsidized prices.

Intermittent preventive treatment of malaria in pregnancy: a new delivery system and its effect on maternal health and pregnancy outcomes in Uganda

([Open access](#))

A K Mbonye et al.

The Bulletin of the World Health Organization, Volume 86, Number 2 : 93-100

The new approaches were associated with early access and increased adherence to IPTp. Health units were, however, more effective in reducing parasitaemia and malaria episodes. We recommend further studies to assess programming modalities linking the new approaches and health units.

Cost-effectiveness of malaria diagnostic methods in sub-Saharan Africa in an era of combination therapy ([Open access](#))

Samual Shillcutt et al.

The Bulletin of the World Health Organization, Volume 86, Number 2 : 101-110

RDTs have the potential to be cost-effective in most parts of sub-Saharan Africa. Appropriate management of malaria and non-malarial febrile illnesses is required to reap the full benefits of these tests.

Household cost of malaria overdiagnosis in rural Mozambique ([Open access](#))

Jen CC Hume, Guy Barnish, Tara Mangal, Luiz Armazio, Elizabeth Streat, Imelda Bates
Malaria Journal 2008, 7:33 (18 February 2008)

The retrospective study examines the incidence of repeat health consultations in correctly and incorrectly diagnosed malaria patients in a real-life situation: it shows that overdiagnosis of malaria results in a greater number of visits and associated cost for adult patients, and that the poorest individuals pay significantly more proportionally for their healthcare.

Costs and effects of the Tanzanian national voucher scheme for insecticide-treated nets ([Open access](#))

Jo-Ann Mulligan, Joshua Yukich, Kara Hanson

Malaria Journal 2008, 7:32 (15 February 2008)

The debate continues to rage regarding the relative roles of different models of ITN delivery and, in most studies, the relative cost effectiveness of each is difficult to compare in the absence of reliable data. This paper presents the first study to explore a scaled up voucher model.

A Collaborative Epidemiological Investigation into the Criminal Fake Artesunate Trade in South East Asia ([Open access](#))

Paul N. Newton, et al

PLoS Med 5(2): e32.

Paul Newton and colleagues' international, collaborative study found evidence that counterfeit artesunate was being manufactured in China, which prompted a criminal investigation.

An Autopsy Study of Maternal Mortality in Mozambique: The Contribution of Infectious Diseases ([Open access](#))

Clara Menéndez, et al

PLoS Med 5(2): e44

In this tertiary hospital in Mozambique, infectious diseases accounted for at least half of all maternal deaths, even though effective treatment is available for the four leading causes, HIV/AIDS, pyogenic bronchopneumonia, severe malaria, and pyogenic meningitis. These observations highlight the need to implement effective and available prevention tools, such as intermittent preventive treatment and insecticide-treated bed-nets for malaria, antiretroviral drugs for HIV/AIDS, or vaccines and effective antibiotics for pneumococcal and meningococcal diseases. Deaths due to obstetric causes represent a failure of health-care systems and require urgent improvement.

Safety and Efficacy of Methylene Blue Combined with Artesunate or Amodiaquine for Uncomplicated Falciparum Malaria: A Randomized Controlled Trial from Burkina Faso ([Open access](#))

Augustin Zoungrana et al.

PLoS ONE 3(2): e1630

MB-AQ is a promising alternative drug combination against malaria in Africa. Moreover, MB has the potential to further accelerate the rapid parasite clearance of artemisinin-based combination therapies. More than a century after the antimalarial properties of MB had been described, its role in malaria control deserves closer attention.

Phase 1 Study of a Combination AMA1 Blood Stage Malaria Vaccine in Malian Children ([Open access](#))

Alassane Dicko et al

PLoS One 3(2): e1563

AMA-C1 vaccine is well tolerated and immunogenic in children in this endemic area although the antibody response was short lived.

Sulfadoxine-Pyrimethamine–Based Combinations for Malaria: A Randomised Blinded Trial to Compare Efficacy, Safety and Selection of Resistance in Malawi ([Open access](#))

David J. Bell et al.

PLoS One 3(2): e1578

This study confirms the return of CQ sensitivity in Malawi and importantly, shows no evidence of the re-emergence of pfcr1 76T after treatment with CQ or AQ. Given the safety record of AQ when used as a prophylaxis, our observations of marked falls in neutrophil counts in the AQ+SP group requires further scrutiny.

Structural Insight into Epitopes in the Pregnancy-Associated Malaria Protein VAR2CSA ([Open access](#))

Pernille Andersen, Morten A. Nielsen, Mafalda Resende, Thomas S. Rask, Madeleine Dahlbäck, Thor Theander, Ole Lund, and Ali Salanti

PLoS Pathog 4(2): e42

These results comprise an important step towards understanding the structure of VAR2CSA on the surface of CSA-binding infected erythrocytes.

Translation of artemether–lumefantrine treatment policy into paediatric clinical practice: an early experience from Kenya ([Open access](#))

D. Zurovac, J. Njogu, W. Akhwale, D. H. Hamer and R. W. Snow

Tropical Medicine & International Health, Volume 13 Issue 1 Page 99-107

Changes in clinical practices at the point of care might take longer than anticipated. Delivery of successful interventions and their scaling up to increase coverage are important during this process; however, this should be accompanied by rigorous research evaluations, corrective actions on existing interventions and testing cost-effectiveness of novel interventions capable of improving and maintaining health worker performance and health systems to deliver artemisinin-based combination therapy in Africa.

Malaria Treatment with Atovaquone-Proguanil in Malaria-immune Adults; Implications for Malaria Intervention Trials and for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis of Malaria

Polhemus ME, Remich S, Ogutu B, Waitumbi J, Lievens M, Ballou WR, Heppner DG Jr.

Antimicrob Agents Chemother. 2008 Feb 11: Epub ahead of print

Eighty adults in holoendemic Kenya received presumptive treatment with atovaquone/proguanil and were followed closely. The time to first Plasmodium falciparum parasitemia was 32 days. This prolonged prophylaxis period has implications for study design when used in malaria intervention trials and cautiously suggests clinical investigation for potential pre-exposure prophylaxis of malaria.

Simvastatin treatment shows no effect on the incidence of cerebral malaria or parasitemia during experimental malaria

Kobbe R, Schreiber N, May J, Jacobs T.

Antimicrob Agents Chemother. 2008 Feb 11: Epub ahead of print

Statins, 3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl-coenzyme A (HMG-CoA) reductase inhibitors, reduce in vitro growth of Plasmodium falciparum (4).

Interpreting indicators of iron status during an acute phase response - lessons from malaria and human immunodeficiency virus

Northrop-Clewes, Christine A.

Annals of Clinical Biochemistry, Volume 45, Number 1, January 2008 , pp. 18-32(15)

The objective of this review is to show how indices of iron status, particularly haemoglobin, serum ferritin and soluble transferrin receptor concentrations relate to changes in the acute phase proteins during inflammation.

Cryptolepine analogues containing basic aminoalkyl side-chains at C-11: Synthesis, antiplasmodial activity, and cytotoxicity

João Lavrado, Alexandra Paulo, Jiri Gut, Philip J. Rosenthal and Rui Moreira

Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters, Volume 18, Issue 4, 15 February 2008, Pages 1378-1381

A series of cryptolepine derivatives has been synthesized through the incorporation of short basic side-chains in the C-11 position of the 10H-indolo[3,2-b]quinoline scaffold. Their antiplasmodial activity was evaluated in vitro against the chloroquine resistant Plasmodium falciparum W2 strain, showing IC50 values between 22 and 184 nM, while

their cytotoxicity was assessed using HUVEC cells, revealing three compounds with a selectivity ratio higher than 10. The most selective of these derivatives, 4d, with a selectivity ratio of 46, was also the least cytotoxic of the series.

Orally active esters of dihydroartemisinin: Synthesis and antimalarial activity against multidrug-resistant *Plasmodium yoelii* in mice

Chandan Singh, Sandeep Chaudhary and Sunil K. Puri

Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters, Volume 18, Issue 4, 15 February 2008, Pages 1436-1441

A series of artemisinin derived esters 7a–j, incorporating pharmacologically privileged substructure, such as biphenyl, adamantane and fluorene, have been prepared and evaluated for antimalarial activity against multidrug-resistant (MDR) *Plasmodium yoelii nigeriensis* by oral route.

Synthesis, thermal stability, antimalarial activity of symmetrically and asymmetrically substituted tetraoxanes

Himanshu Atheaya, Shabana I. Khan, Ritu Mamgain and Diwan S. Rawat

Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters, Volume 18, Issue 4, 15 February 2008, Pages 1446-1449

All of the synthesized compounds were characterized spectroscopically, and evaluated for cytotoxicity, and antimalarial activity. Several of these tetraoxanes exhibited in vitro antimalarial activity without showing any cytotoxicity. Thermal stability of these compounds was studied by differential scanning calorimetry.

PbCap380, a novel oocyst capsule protein, is essential for malaria parasite survival in the mosquito

Prakash Srinivasan, Hisashi Fujioka and Marcelo Jacobs-Lorena

Cellular Microbiology, OnlineAccepted Articles

Here we report on the identification and partial characterization of the first *Plasmodium* oocyst capsule protein (PbCap380). Genetic analysis indicates that the gene is essential and that PbCap380(-) mutant parasites form oocysts in normal numbers but are gradually eliminated. As a result mosquitoes infected with PbCap380(-) parasites do not transmit malaria. Targeting of the oocyst capsule may provide a new strategy for malaria control.

Single-dose immunogenicity and protective efficacy of simian adenoviral vectors against *Plasmodium berghei*

Arturo Reyes-Sandoval, Saranya Sridhar, Tamara Berthoud, Anne C. Moore, John T. Harty, Sarah C. Gilbert, Guangping Gao, Hildegund C. J. Ertl, James C. Wilson, Adrian V. S. Hill

European Journal of Immunology, Volume 38, Issue 3, Pages 732 - 741

Our data suggest that TEM cells are important as a first line of defense against fast-replicating pathogens such as murine *Plasmodium* and demonstrate the potential of replication-defective SAd as future malaria vaccines for humans.

Extensive microsatellite diversity in the human malaria parasite *Plasmodium vivax*
Nadira D. Karunaweera, Marcelo U. Ferreira, Anusha Munasinghe, John W. Barnwell, William E. Collins, Christopher L. King, Fumihiko Kawamoto, Daniel L. Hartl and Dyann F. Wirth

Gene, Volume 410, Issue 1, 29 February 2008, Pages 105-112

Parasite relapses, which may extend the duration of *P. vivax* carriage in humans, are suggested to facilitate the spread of strains across continents, breaking down any pre-existing geographic structure.

Positive selection on the *Plasmodium falciparum* sporozoite threonine-asparagine-rich protein: Analysis of isolates mainly from low endemic areas

Somchai Jongwutiwes, Chaturong Putaporntip, Kriangkrai Karnchaisri, Sunee Seethamchai, Thongchai Hongsrimumang and Hiroji Kanbara

Gene, Volume 410, Issue 1, 29 February 2008, Pages 139-146

Sequence conservation in the STARP locus among clinical isolates from different disease endemic areas would not compromise vaccine incorporation.

The Wheat Germ Cell-Free Based Production of Malaria Proteins for Discovery of Novel Vaccine Candidates

Tsuboi T, Takeo S, Iriko H, Jin L, Tsuchimochi M, Matsuda S, Han ET, Otsuki H, Kaneko O, Sattabongkot J, Udomsangpetch R, Sawasaki T, Torii M, Endo Y.

Infect Immun. 2008 Feb 11: Epub ahead of print

The PCR products of 124 *P. falciparum* genes chosen from the available database were used directly in a small-scale format of transcription and translation reactions.

Autoradiogram testing revealed the production of 93 proteins. Application of this new cell-free based protocol for the discovery of malaria vaccine candidates will be discussed.

Characterization of inhibitors and substrates of *Anopheles gambiae* CYP6Z2

L. A. McLaughlin, U. Niazi, J. Bibby, J.-P. David, J. Vontas, J. Hemingway, H. Ranson, M. J. Sutcliffe and M. J. I. Paine

Insect Molecular Biology, Online Early

Three *CYP6Z* genes are linked to a major pyrethroid resistance locus in the mosquito *Anopheles gambiae*. We have expressed CYP6Z2 in *Escherichia coli* and produced a structural model in order to examine its role in detoxification.

Insulin regulates aging and oxidative stress in *Anopheles stephensi*

Mi-Ae Kang, Tiffany M. Mott, Erin C. Tapley, Edwin E. Lewis, and Shirley Luckhart

J Exp Biol 2008;211 741-748

Observations from nematodes to mammals indicate that insulin/insulin-like growth factor signaling (IIS) regulates lifespan. As in other organisms, IIS is conserved in mosquitoes and signaling occurs in multiple tissues. During bloodfeeding, mosquitoes ingest human insulin. This simple observation suggested that exogenous insulin could mimic the endogenous hormonal control of aging in mosquitoes, providing a new model to examine this phenomenon at the organismal and cellular levels.

Rapid Diagnostic Tests for Malaria at Sites of Varying Transmission Intensity in Uganda

Heidi Hopkins, Lisa Bebell, Wilson Kambale, Christian Dokomajilar, Philip J. Rosenthal, and Grant Dorsey

The Journal of Infectious Diseases 15 February 2008, Vol. 197, No. 4: 510-518

Based on the high PPV and NPV, HRP2-based RDTs are likely to be the best diagnostic choice for areas with medium-to-high malaria transmission rates in Africa.

Antibodies to Pre-erythrocytic *Plasmodium falciparum* Antigens and Risk of Clinical Malaria in Kenyan Children

Chandy C. John, Aaron J. Tande, Ann M. Moormann, Peter O. Sumba, David E. Lanar, Xinan M. Min, and James W. Kazura

The Journal of Infectious Diseases 15 February 2008, Vol. 197, No. 4: 519-526.

Kenyan children with high levels of IgG antibodies to the pre-erythrocytic antigens CSP, LSA-1, and TRAP have a lower risk of developing clinical malaria than children without high levels of these antibodies. The decreased risk of clinical malaria may be mediated in part by prevention of high-density parasitemia.



Nr. 152 (25 February 2008)

Potent Antimalarial and Transmission-Blocking Activities of Centanamycin, a Novel DNA-Binding Agent

Stephanie K. Yanow, Lisa A. Purcell, Gabriele Pradel, Atsushi Sato, Ana Rodriguez, Moses Lee, and Terry W. Spithill

The Journal of Infectious Diseases 15 February 2008, Vol. 197, No. 4: 527-534.

We show here that the compound centanamycin is very effective against blood-stage malarial infections in vitro and in vivo and has profound effects on sexual differentiation of the parasites in mosquitoes.

Newdesk: First trial results of a blood-stage malaria vaccine promising

Mary Beth Nierengarten

The Lancet Infectious Diseases, Volume 8, Issue 3, March 2008, Page 152

No abstract available

Clinical Picture: Not all that is malaria is falciparum

AJ Brent and BJ Angus

The Lancet Infectious Diseases, Volume 8, Issue 3, March 2008, Page 208

No abstract available

Spatial dissection of the cis- and trans-Golgi compartments in the malaria parasite Plasmodium falciparum

Nicole S. Struck, et al

Molecular Microbiology, Online Early

Our data demonstrate that Golgi multiplication is closely linked to tER multiplication, and that parasite maturation is accompanied by the spatial separation of the cis- and trans-face of this organelle.

This week: Forensics expose fake antimalarial drug scam

Peter Aldhous

The New Scientist, Volume 197, Issue 2643, 16 February 2008, Page 12

Blow against counterfeiters sees Chinese sellers of fake artesunate arrested and distribution network disrupted, but search for factory goes on

Malaria diagnostic tests show room for improvement

PharmacoEconomics and Outcomes News, Volume 1, Number 546, 2008-02-09, pp.

4-4(1)

No abstract available

Four distinct pathways of hemoglobin uptake in the malaria parasite Plasmodium falciparum

David A. Elliott, Michael T. McIntosh, H. Dean Hosgood, Shuo Chen, Gina Zhang, Pavlina Baevova, and Keith A. Joiner

PNAS: Early Edition

Using serial thin-section electron microscopy and three-dimensional reconstruction, we demonstrate four independent, but partially overlapping, hemoglobin-uptake processes distinguishable temporally, morphologically, and pharmacologically.

High levels of erythropoietin are associated with protection against neurological sequelae in African children with cerebral malaria

Climent Casals-Pascual, Richard Idro, Nimmo Gicheru, Samson Gwer, Barnes Kitsao, Evelyn Gitau, Robert Mwakesi, David J. Roberts, and Charles R. J. C. Newton

PNAS: Early Edition

We hypothesized that high plasma and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) levels of these cytokines would prevent neurological sequelae in children with CM.

Structures of *P. falciparum* Protein Kinase 7 Identify an Activation Motif and Leads for Inhibitor Design

Anais Merckx, Aude Echali er, Kia Langford, Audrey Sicard, Gordon Langsley, Jos Joore, Christian Doerig, Martin Noble, and Jane Endicott

Structure, Vol 16, 228-238

We identify two series of PFPK7 ATP-competitive inhibitors and suggest further developments for the design of selective and potent PFPK7 lead compounds as potential antimalarials.

The relationship between terrorist activities and cases of malaria in the eastern and south-eastern regions of Turkey, 1984–1998

Ilhan Cetin, Mucahit Egri, Osman Celbis, Sadik Toprak and Kadir Ozag

Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Volume 102, Issue 3, March 2008, Pages 255-258

The objective of this study was to determine whether cases of malaria are related to terrorist activities that have occurred in the eastern and south-eastern regions of Turkey. Based on this analysis, it is determined that the annual number of terrorist incidences has been associated with the annual number of malaria cases in these regions of Turkey since the beginning of terrorist activity in 1984.

DEET microencapsulation: a slow-release formulation enhancing the residual efficacy of bed nets against malaria vectors

Raphael N'Guessan, Bart G.J. Knols, Cedric Pennerier and Mark Rowland

Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Volume 102, Issue 3, March 2008, Pages 259-262

Such formulations may have the potential for use on nets against pyrethroid-resistant mosquitoes or on clothing or bedding materials distributed in disasters, emergencies or refugee camp situations.

Insecticide susceptibility and vector status of natural populations of *Anopheles arabiensis* from Sudan

H. Abdalla, T.S. Matambo, L.L. Koekemoer, A.P. Mnzava, R.H. Hunt and M. Coetzee

Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Volume 102, Issue 3, March 2008, Pages 263-271

There was no significant difference in the frequency of kdr ($P > 0.05$) between dead and surviving specimens. These findings have serious implications for the malaria control programmes in Gezira and Sennar states.

Review: Antimalarial dosing regimens and drug resistance

Karen I. Barnes, William M. Watkins and Nicholas J. White

Trends in Parasitology, Article in Press, Corrected Proof

Sub-therapeutic concentrations will certainly contribute to poorer responses to treatment and will fuel the emergence and spread of antimalarial drug resistance. There is an urgent need for studies to optimise antimalarial dosage regimens in infants, young children and pregnant women, both to improve cure rates and to prolong the useful therapeutic lives of antimalarial drugs.

Haptoglobin genotype, anaemia and malaria in Gambian children

Sharon E. Cox, Conor P. Doherty, Sarah H. Atkinson, Chidi V. Nweneka, Anthony J. C. Fulford, Giorgio Sirugo, Kirk A. Rockett, Dominic P. Kwiatkowski and Andrew M. Prentice

Tropical Medicine & International Health, Volume 13 Issue 1 Page 76-82

The effect of the Hp2 allele appears to be independent of effects on malaria incidence but may affect Hb levels through increased oxidant stress and red cell turnover. This may be

supported by our previous observations that the effect of Hp22 was independent of markers of iron status and zinc protoporphyrin measured at the cross-sectional surveys and therefore also of iron availability for erythropoiesis.

Risk associated with asymptomatic parasitaemia occurring post-antimalarial treatment

Piero Olliaro, Loretxu Pinoges, Francesco Checchi, Michel Vaillant and Jean-Paul Guthmann

Tropical Medicine & International Health, Volume 13 Issue 1 Page 83-90

In areas of moderate to intense transmission, asymptomatic recurrences of malaria after treatment carry a substantial risk of becoming ill within a few days and should be treated as discovered. Young children are at higher risk. The higher risk carried by cases occurring in the second half of follow-up may be explained by falling residual drug levels.

Plasmodium vivax resistance to chloroquine in Dawei, southern Myanmar

Jean-Paul Guthmann, Anne Pittet, Alexandre Lesage, Mallika Imwong, Niklas Lindegardh, Myo Min Lwin, Than Zaw, Anna Annerberg, Xavier de Radiguès and François Nosten

Tropical Medicine & International Health, Volume 13 Issue 1 Page 91-98,

Plasmodium vivax resistance to chloroquine seems to be emerging in Dawei, near the Thai-Burmese border. While chloroquine remains the first-line drug for P. vivax infections in this area of Myanmar, regular monitoring is needed to detect further development of parasite resistance.

Household burden of malaria in South Africa and Mozambique: is there a catastrophic impact?

Marianela Castillo-Riquelme, Diane McIntyre and Karen Barnes

Tropical Medicine & International Health, Volume 13 Issue 1 Page 108-122

The high rate of health seeking in public health facilities seems unusual in the African context, which bodes well for high coverage with artemisinin-based combinations, even if only deployed within the public sector. However, despite no or modest charges for public sector primary healthcare, households frequently incur catastrophic expenditure on a single malaria episode.

Direct effect of Plasmodium vivax recombinant vaccine candidates AMA-1 and MSP-1₁₉ on the innate immune response

Lilian Lacerda Bueno, Ricardo Toshio Fujiwara, Irene Silva Soares and Érika Martins Braga

Vaccine, Volume 26, Issue 9, 26 February 2008, Pages 1204-1213

These results suggest that the recombinant vaccine candidate Pv-AMA-1 may play a direct role on innate immune response and might be involved in parasite destruction.

... Events ...

Call for Registration and Abstracts: 1st AHRO International Symposium on Clinical Pharmacology of Antimalaria Drugs

Dates: 12-13 August 2008

Venue: M Plaza, Accra Ghana

The aim of this symposium is to make a significant contribution to the optimization of malaria treatment by bringing together experts and have them present as well as discuss the latest important scientific findings in the pharmacology of anti-malaria drugs. The sessions for the events will include: Pharmacokinetics of existing anti-malaria agents, treatment of co-infections, drug resistance, pharmacokinetics of new agents, managing drugs interactions, Vaccine Strategies, Adverse events in clinical trials. **More information**



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... Jobs ...

Programme Officer - Malaria Control through Distribution of Long Lasting Insecticide treated Nets, Malaria Consortium South Sudan (Aweil Office)

Application deadline: 9 March 2008

Malaria Consortium (MC) has been awarded a Global Fund grant to work with the Ministry of Health (MoH), Government of South Sudan (GoSS), in the comprehensive control of malaria in three counties of Northern Bahr el Ghazal State. The purpose of the Programme Officer is to plan and implement the LLIN distribution component of the grant. This will involve planning with government and partners, recruiting and training of field teams, supervising the field teams, monitoring and evaluating the distribution. A significant proportion of time will be spent in very remote field locations. **More information**

EMVI Business Development Manager, European Malaria Vaccine Initiative

Application deadline: 31 March 2008

Location: Based part-time in Copenhagen (Denmark) or another major European city; frequent travel required.

The Business Development Manager will be based part-time at Statens Serum Institut, Copenhagen (Denmark). S/he will, in particular, focus on coordinating and supporting EMVI business development activities, working closely with the Executive Director and the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC). **More information**

... Education ...

Eight PhD Studentships in Malaria Research, EMVDA

The following 8 PhD studentships offer a unique opportunity for students to become engaged in malaria research in world-leading malaria research institutions:

1. Vaccine-induced and natural immune responses to AMA1 in Mali
2. Development of viral vector combination vaccine strategies targeting both pre-erythrocytic and blood-stage malaria
3. Statistical and epidemiological methods for assessment of correlates of antibody mediated immunity to *P. falciparum* malaria in children
4. Induction and persistence of memory T cells by candidate malaria vaccines
5. Functional analysis of human monoclonal antibodies against MSP2
6. Immune responses to the erythrocytic stage of *Plasmodium falciparum* and the development of vaccines against malaria
7. Assessment of the immune responses to a malaria candidate vaccine in immunised volunteers and exposed populations
8. Development of humoral immune responses and immunological memory against malaria vaccine-candidates in humans

Students should hold the necessary degree(s) entitling them to undertake PhD study in their chosen country and possess a high standard of written and spoken English. Applications from women and African students are encouraged. **More information**

... News ...

General



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19 February 2008, European Research Headlines

International partnership strengthens malaria research

International collaboration in the fight against Malaria is set for a welcome boost thanks to a new agreement between Australia's Research Network for Parasitology and the EU's Network of Excellence on the Biology and Pathology of Malaria (BioMalPar). Under the new Memorandum of Understanding, the two networks will join forces to form the largest ever global network of acclaimed scientists to set the scientific basis for prevention and new treatment of the vector-borne infectious disease, Malaria.

16 February 2008, The New York Times

Gates Foundation's Influence Criticized

The chief of malaria for the World Health Organization has complained that the growing dominance of malaria research by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation risks stifling a diversity of views among scientists and wiping out the world health agency's policy-making function.

14 February 2008, Reuters

U.S. businessman Chambers to head UN malaria drive

The United Nations appointed U.S. businessman and philanthropist Ray Chambers Thursday as special envoy for malaria to lead an ambitious bid to slash deaths from the disease in the next few years.

12 February 2008, Kaiser GlobalHealthReporting.org

Coalition Uses Pollen Analysis To Address Counterfeit Malaria Drug Scheme, Study Says

A coalition of scientists, public health workers and police investigators have used a form of pollen analysis to expose an operation involved in producing and trading counterfeit artemisinin-based combination therapies in China and Southeast Asia, according to a paper published on Tuesday in PLoS Medicine.

Africa

19 February 2008, Modern Ghana

Ghana: Infanta Donates Malaria Items

The INFANTA Malaria Prevention Foundation, a non-governmental organisation headed by the wife of the New Patriotic Party (NPP) flagbearer, Mrs. Rebecca Akufo-Addo, has presented treated mosquito nets, teaching aids on malaria and chemicals for spraying mosquitoes, to three basic schools at Asamankese in the Eastern region.

18 February 2008, The Zimbabwean

Zimbabwe: Ministry fights back against malaria

The Ministry of Health and Child Welfare has started using malaria rapid testing kits to ensure accurate recording and correct medication.

18 February 2008, Reuters

Angola: AIDS, malaria on WHO chief's agenda in Angola

The director-general of the World Health Organization on Monday met with officials in Angola in a bid to improve cooperation in the fight against AIDS, malaria and other common diseases in the African nation.

17 February 2008, Guardian Unlimited

Gambia: Kidney drug could save children from malaria brain damage

Researchers have discovered that a drug, widely used in the West by kidney-failure patients, could protect millions of children from the brain damage inflicted by severe



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malaria. The breakthrough is the work of scientists based at laboratories run by Britain's Medical Research Council in Gambia.

17 February 2008, Guardian Unlimited

Tanzania: Trial and error - the war on malaria

It is the world's deadliest disease, killing more than 900,000 a year in Africa alone. But can Bill Gates's dollars create a vaccine that would save a continent's children?

17 February 2008, AFP

Tanzania: Tanzania's 'Magic Power' net is malaria's new foe

US President George W. Bush will discover one of Africa's most powerful weapons in the fight against malaria: a mosquito net treated with an insecticide that stays potent for five years.

17 February 2008, Afrik.com

Burundi: Two million infested with malaria in Burundi annually

Malaria affects between two million and 2.5 million people per year in Burundi, which makes it the first cause of mortality in the country, Burundi Public Health Minister, Dr Emmanuel Gikoro, declared Sunday.

17 February 2008, Joy Online

Ghana: Malaria cases drop by 50 percent in Gomoa

Malaria cases recorded in health facilities in the Gomoa District have dropped from 24,319 in 2004 to 11,977 in 2007 representing an over 50 percent reduction.

15 February 2008, Angola Press

Angola: Health Ministry To Present Inquiry On Malaria Indicators

A workshop on the presentation of the results of an "Inquiry on Malaria Indicators in Angola" will be held on 18-19 February, in Luanda, by the Health Ministry (Minsa).

Asia

20 February 2008, The News

Pakistan: Malaria control strategy faces problems

Even though the Directorate of Malaria Control (DOMC) has obtained approval for a US \$23 million Round 7 grant from Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM), the achievement continues to be eclipsed by repeated rounds of objections at home, to its Rs660.607 million PC-1 for malaria control activities.

13 February 2008, Science Daily

China: Fake Malaria Drugs Made In China: Tracking Down The Threat To Global Health

A unique collaboration between scientists, public health workers and police has led to the arrest by the Chinese authorities of alleged traders of fake anti-malarial drugs in southern China and the seizure of a large quantity of drugs. The work, involving teams from across the globe, has highlighted both the growing threat posed by fake pharmaceuticals and the complexities of tracking down those responsible for the trade.

Americas

16 February 2008, ABC

USA: Bush to push AIDS, malaria fight during Africa visit

Mr Bush will visit five African countries including Rwanda, Ghana and Liberia and says he will have one key message during his trip.



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14 February 2008, The Johns Hopkins Newsletter

USA: Genetically altered mosquitoes help fight malaria

GNBPB4's interaction with Plasmodium is in sync with previous literature results, which indicated that the Anopheles immune system is active in defense against the parasite. Ultimately, our knowledge of how GNBPBs work will aid in the development for novel methods of malaria control based on eliminating the parasite from the Anopheles mosquito vector population.

Europe

14 February 2008, EurekAlert

UK: A new look inside the brain at cerebral malaria

Currently there is no way to detect such platelet accumulation until after the clinical signs of the disease are visible. However, a new way to detect platelet accumulation in the microvasculature of the mouse brain has now been developed by Daniel Anthony and colleagues at the University of Oxford, United Kingdom.