

Malaria A Guide To Understanding An Invisible Killer

Malaria is a severe disease transmitted through certain infected Mosquitos which feed on humans blood [1]. Symptoms of malaria can be as follows; high temperature, shaking chills and just generally an illness which imitates a very severe flu [1]. A rural village in Mali, has been adversely affected by this silent killer. Mali is very prone to a Malaria outbreak due to a variety of reasons, such as the quantity of mosquitos in the hot climate and the hygienic issues which surround Mali as it is a Low-Income country. Statistics such as the fact that Mali is among the top ten countries affected by Malaria in terms of Deaths and cases[2]. The numerous Malaria outbreaks come without surprise but utmost sadness towards the recipients. Worldwide, in the year 2018 it can be estimated that 228 million cases of Malaria occurred which is shocking [1]. This makes it abundantly clear drastic and hasteful measures need to be taken in order to ensure the spread of the disease can be limited. Throughout this essay, I will give ways in which Malaria can be prevented, cured and the spread of it reduced.

Hasteful and drastic measures need to be taken as Malaria affects the world on a global scale, not in a single location. Consequently, this can mean downward spirals in tourism in places where Malaria is prevalent and the tragic loss of lives, majorly young lives as Malaria affects a large amount of children under 5 [2]. Additionally, as we know Malaria is prominent in poorer countries where the GDP per capita is much lower than richer countries because of sanitation and a lack of protective measures which I will cover. This means in countries where health care costs money, it makes the poor even poorer meaning Malaria can sentence families to a life of unwanted poverty [3]. Malaria mustn't be overlooked as it is an invisible killer, meaning although we are unable to see Malaria it is slowly ruining the livelihoods of many people.

However, bearing in mind the pivotal factor of Malaria being an invisible killer it begs the question and brings to mind multiple reasons of why it may be hard to prevent. This can be because the vector involved is highly adaptable and also is of a small size meaning a mass termination of mosquitos is virtually impossible [4]. Furthermore, the adaptable nature means it can grow immune to the protective measures overtime and can develop, meaning the ways in which Malaria is prevented must also adapt with the disease [4]. Essentially, Malaria may be a hard disease to combat on a global scale also because of the financial situations of different countries. England will have more means to combat the invisible killer as opposed to Mali which is less financially able to put in place and prevent and treat strategy. As an innovative individual, I still believe, bearing in mind the ways in which Malaria presents itself as a hard disease to combat, that we can prevent Malaria in places like Mali. Ways in which we can do this are wearing mosquito repellent, this is simple but effective. As previously stated, Malaria is transmitted through a vector (infected mosquitos) not allowing the vector in direct contact with us means a drastically lower likelihood of being a recipient of a severe disease like Malaria, as I have stressed I understand the financial situations of the people of Mali and mosquito repellent may be deemed a luxury, i say no more, from when you read this mosquito repellent will be a necessity and can be accessed locally and for free. Moreover, Implementing a map which shows the areas within a city where malaria is most prevalent will help as it gives an indication as to what places to avoid and can help us trace the outbreak as to its origins, a fully accurate and precise pinpoint may be unachievable due to the rapid spreading capabilities of malaria however any depiction is needed as the people's safety is the number one priority and pinpointing a vast location is better than being 'blind'. Also, going forward I believe that a vaccine needs to be circulated [4]. I believe this because through scientific research surrounding Malaria and its components a vaccine can be created that targets Malaria specifically and entirely prevents it meaning a sense of

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normality can be restored, with any solution comes uncertainty with everything you can think of, nothing is perfect. With a vaccine, a select few side effects to the vaccine could occur but will go with time, I feel it better there a slim chance of side effects and you safe from a severe disease (malaria), then malaria still lurking everywhere you may go. As Malaria adapts our vaccines will adapt and the funding to the medical to departments to ensure this will not be neglected.

In conclusion, Malaria has affected a lot of the world but we mustn't allow it any more as the scientific uncertainty surrounding Malaria needs to come to a halt. We must grasp the full extent in order to ensure people are kept happy, safe and alive. With the help of my previously mentioned preventative strategies such as plotting the cases can give us an idea of how affected by the disease the city is. In order to avoid a repeat and continuation of Mali, we must keep hygiene to a maximum and also use mosquito repellent and nets to slow and neutralize the vector. Tackling Malaria calls for obedience from every human alike including me. Lives are being lost, but I don't think we can overcome Malaria, I know we can.

Bibliography

- [1] [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. CDC twenty four seven. Saving Lives, Protecting People](#)
- [2] [Severe Malaria Observatory](#)
- [3] <https://www.malariamore.org/why-end-malaria/>
- [4] <https://www.niaid.nih.gov/diseases-conditions/malaria-strategies>