

Malaria in PNG



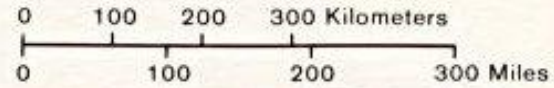
Charles W. Lepani
PNG High Commissioner

28 October 2006

Conference of Rotary International District 9710

Batemans Bay, NSW

Papua New Guinea

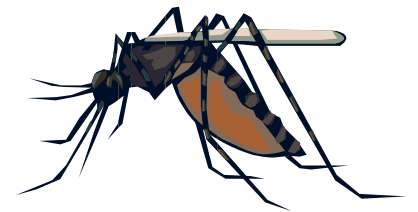


Impact of malaria

- Largest disease burden in PNG
- Morbidity: leading cause of all outpatient visits
- Mortality: third leading cause of hospital admissions and deaths
- Endemic in every province, including those that were once malaria-free
- Underlying cause of high levels of anemia
- Contributes to high levels of maternal and infant mortality
- Social and economic costs to PNG's development

Types of malaria parasites and vectors

- *P. vivax* is less virulent form
- *P. falciparum* accounts for 80% of all human malarial infections and 90% of malarial deaths throughout the world
- Transmitted by *Anopheles* mosquito



Seasonal and epidemic outbreaks

- Seasonal increases in late rainy and early dry seasons
- Emerging trends, especially in the Highlands: intensity of transmission and levels of morbidity exceed the usual seasonal increases

Reported malaria cases 2003

- Probable or clinically diagnosed malaria cases: 1,1729,697
- Total number of laboratory confirmed cases: 70,226
- *P. Falciparum* cases: 55,638
- Severe cases (hospitalized): 17,590
- Reported malaria deaths: 537

Reported malaria cases by selected provinces in 2003

| Province | Cases | % |
|-------------------|-------|----|
| Morobe | 13898 | 20 |
| New Ireland | 8150 | 12 |
| East New Britain | 7738 | 11 |
| NCD | 6853 | 10 |
| Western Highlands | 4986 | 7 |
| Sandaun | 4542 | 6 |
| Madang | 4097 | 6 |
| Milne Bay | 4057 | 6 |
| West New Britain | 3222 | 5 |
| Oro | 2160 | 3 |
| Bougainville | 1699 | 2 |
| Simbu | 1610 | 2 |
| Eastern Highlands | 1569 | 2 |
| Central | 1356 | 2 |
| Western | 1224 | 2 |

Data source:

**Roll Back Malaria
M&E Report,
WHO**

Prevention and control



- Environmental management
- Vector control using insecticides
- **Use of insecticide-treated mosquito nets**
- Improved access to health services
- Treatment and diagnosis guidelines at aid posts and health centres
- Consistent drug supplies at health centres
- Preventive treatment during pregnancy
- Monitoring drug resistance (3 out of 4 patients with *Falciparum* malaria are resistant to chloroquine)

Malaria and HIV

- PNG faces a generalized HIV epidemic
- The co-infection and interaction between HIV and malaria have major public health implications
 - HIV-infected people must be considered particularly vulnerable to malaria
 - Antenatal care needs to address both diseases and their interactions
 - Where both diseases occur, more attention must be given to specific diagnosis and treatment

PNG policy framework

- National Health Plan 2001-2010
- Global Fund for AIDS, TB, and Malaria
- Roll Back Malaria (WHO Partnership)

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National Health Plan 2001-2010

- Improve and expand integrated vector control
- Improve diagnostic and treatment services
- Increase community awareness, education, and partnerships

Targets:

- 80% of population in endemic areas are sleeping under insecticide-treated nets by 2008
- Over 70% of suspected malaria cases laboratory-confirmed by rapid diagnostic tests or microscopy

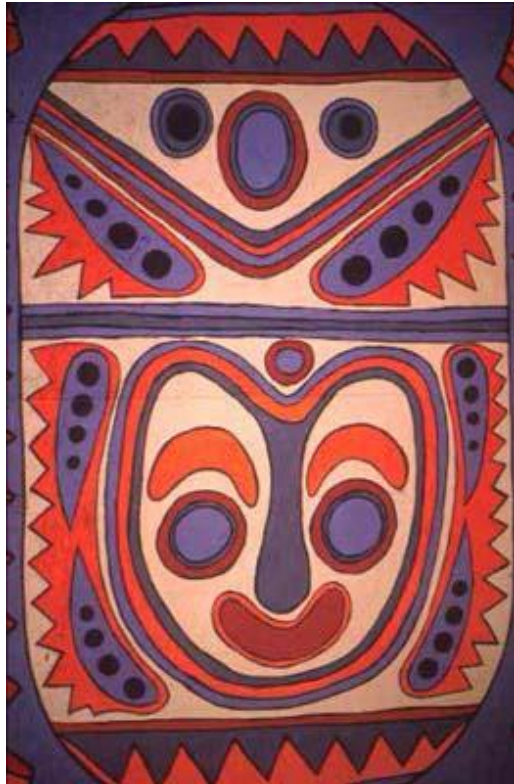
Global Fund for AIDS, TB, and Malaria (GFATM)

- Malaria program commenced in August 2004
- Finance free distribution of nets in all endemic and epidemic-prone areas of PNG
- Strengthen malaria diagnosis through expansion of microscopy services and rapid diagnostic tests in health centres
- US\$ 6 million for 2 years

Roll Back Malaria Partnership

- **WORKING TOGETHER** to form effective partnerships both globally and nationally to scale up malaria-control efforts, coordinate activities to avoid duplication, and ensure optimal use of resources
- **RAISING AWARENESS** of malaria at global, regional, national, and community levels to keep malaria high on the development agenda

Rausim Birua Malaria



References

Mueller, I. *et al.* 2005. Endemic malaria in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea. *American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene* 72(5): 554-560.

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Roll Back Malaria Partnership
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WHO. 2005. Papua New Guinea: Summary Country Profile for HIV/AIDS Treatment Scale-Up.

Thank You, Rotarians

PNG i tok
Bigpela Hamamas Tru
long yupela Rotarians
long helvim mipela !!!!!