

Special Issue

Monitoring the Emergence and Spread of Antimalarial Drug Resistance in Endemic Regions

Message from the Guest Editors

Progresses made in malaria control has stall over the last few years, threatened by the emergence and spread of resistance to component of Artemisinin-based combination therapies (ACTs), the recommended first lines treatments of uncomplicated falciparum malaria. Number of studies in malaria endemic countries have reported excellent efficacy of ACT for the treatment of uncomplicated malaria and SMC in preventing malaria within children under five. However, the emergence and spread of antimalarial drug resistance remains a concern which will greatly challenge the control and elimination of the disease. Taking account, the history of emergence and spread of previous antimalarial drugs, it is a priority to monitor the efficacy of available antimalarial drugs in malaria endemic countries. Current methods of monitoring antimalarial drug resistance rely mainly on in vivo studies, in vitro/ ex vivo parasite sensitivity studies, and the detection of molecular markers mediating drug resistance in infected human subjects. The present issue aims to assemble recent data on antimalarial drug efficacy and resistance to enable early detection of resistance and action to limit its spread.

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