

SURPRISING FACTS ABOUT MALARIA



There Are More People Dying of
Malaria Than Any Specific Cancer.

– Bill Gates

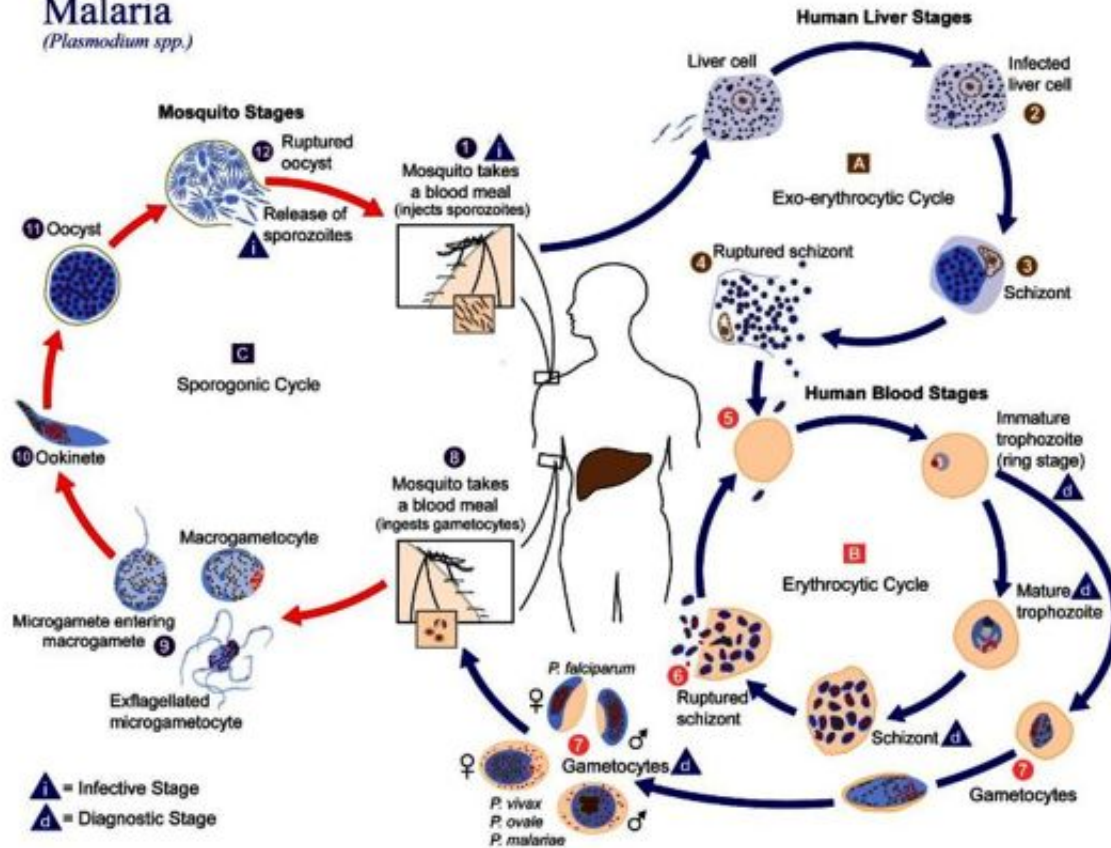




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Malaria

(*Plasmodium* spp.)



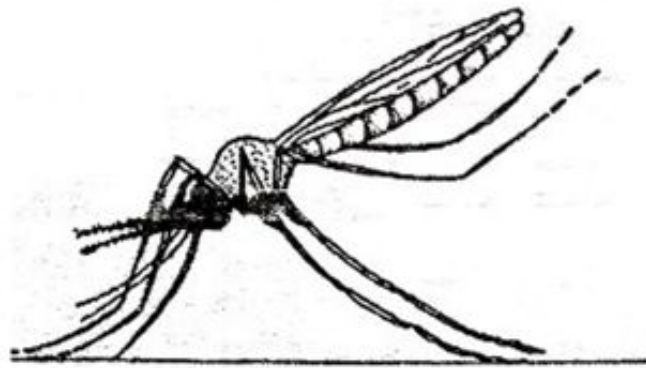
The vector of malaria is *Anopheles*

Only the females

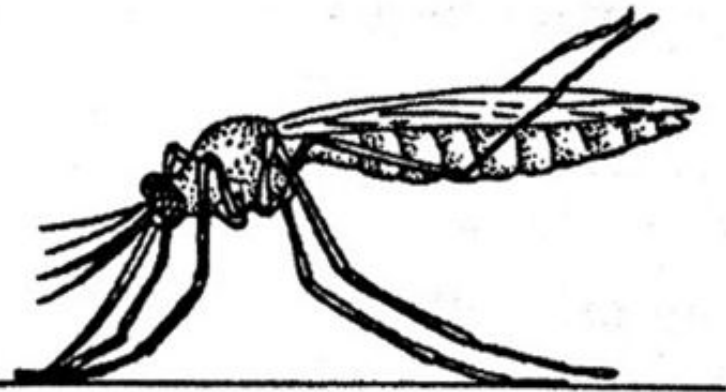
Why the females?

**Because only female mosquitoes drink blood
(they enjoy delicious mammalian blood to feed
their developing eggs**

**There's one more factor that makes
female *Anopheles* mosquitoes creepily vampire-
like: they tend to feed from dusk until dawn**



Anopheles



Culex

The word “malaria” is an Italian word that means “bad air”

In the 18th century people thought that malaria was caused from breathing in bad air in marshy areas

In 1880 scientists discovered that this was not true, but the name stuck

What does Malaria mean?

The word “malaria” comes from the Italian word

Mal = “bad”

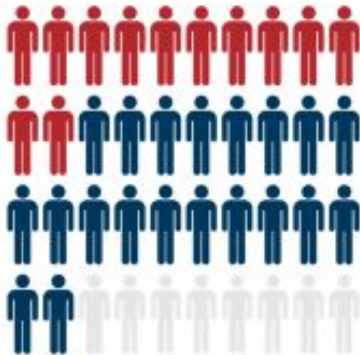
Aria = “air”

When the term was coined, it was commonly believed that malaria was caused by breathing in bad air.

Nearly half of the world's population (40%) - approximately 3 billion people - is at risk of contracting malaria

1.2 billion

People estimated at high risk

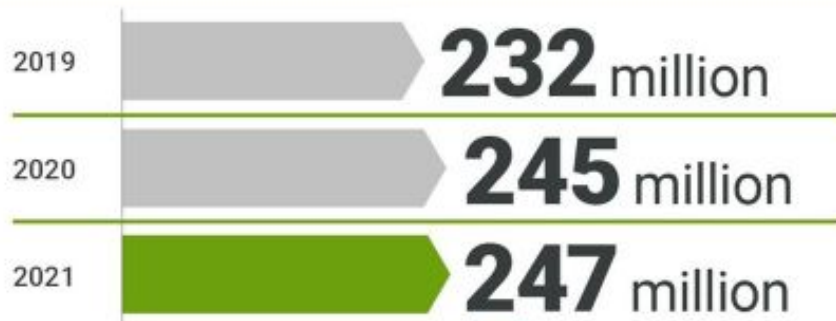


3.2 billion

People estimated at risk

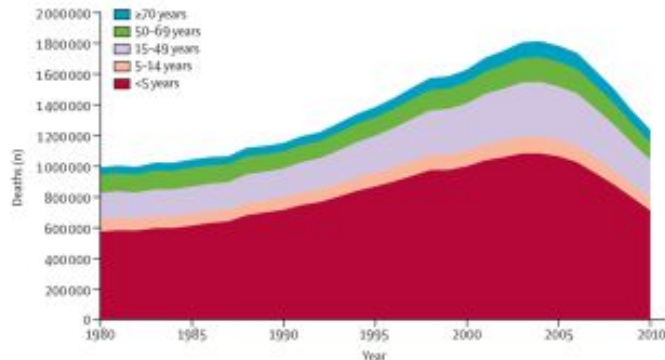
In 2022, there were an estimated 229 million cases of malaria causing over 400,000 malaria-related deaths
This means **1000** deaths every day

Global malaria cases, by year:



Among all communicable diseases, malaria is the **third** largest **killer** of children between the ages of one month and five years, following **pneumonia** and **diarrhoea**

taking the life of **ONE** child every **ONE** minute



Africa is home to 92% of malaria cases and 93% of malaria-related deaths

Percentage of Top 6 West African Countries Malaria Incidence to Total Global Incidence

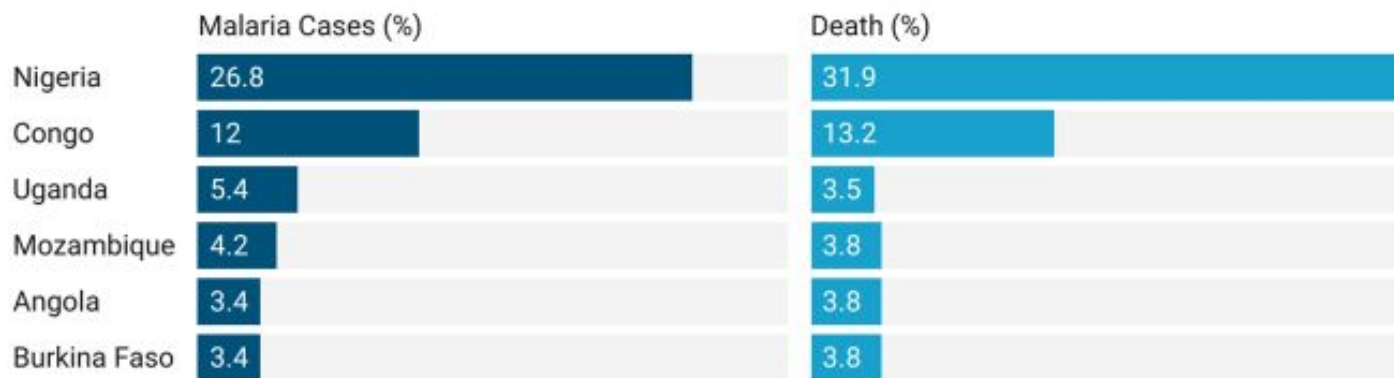
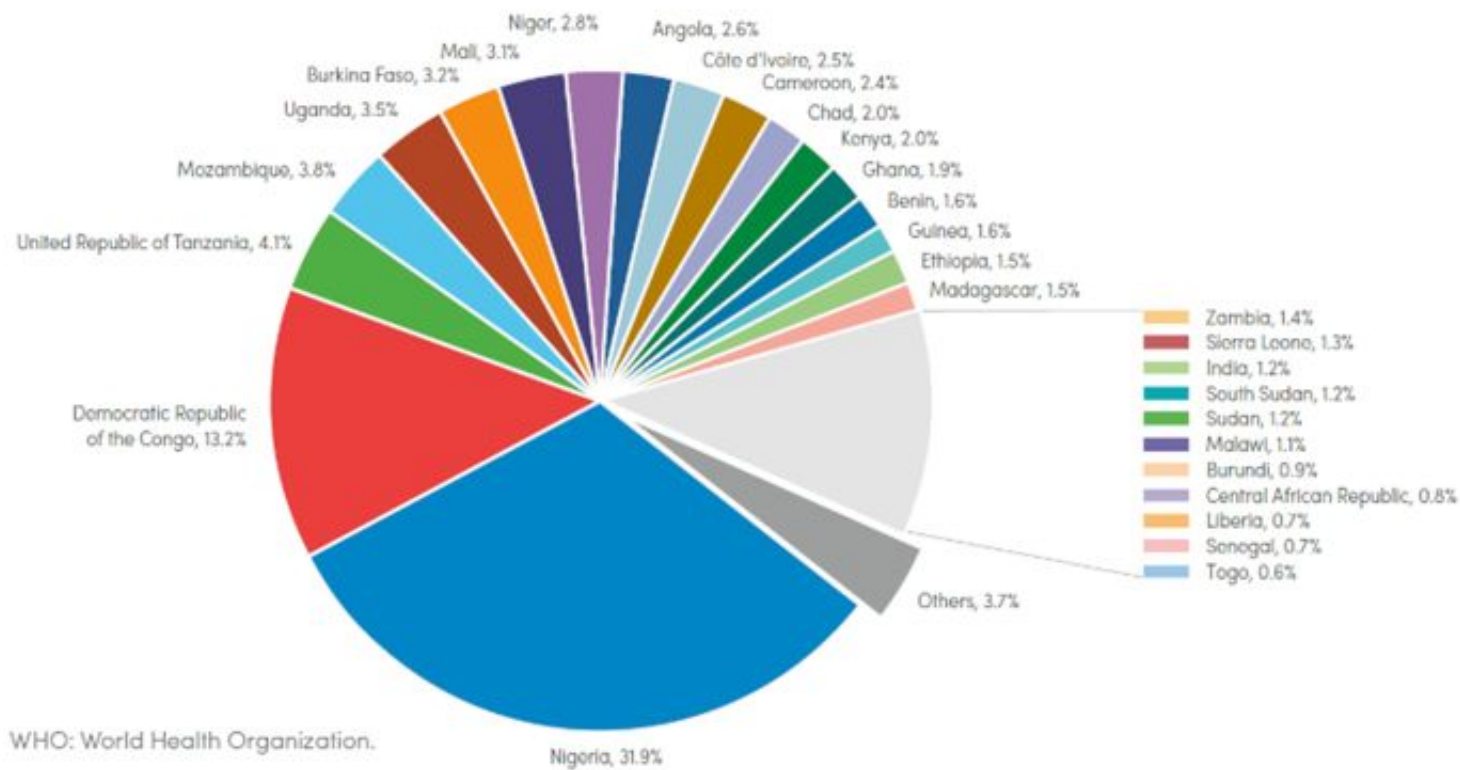


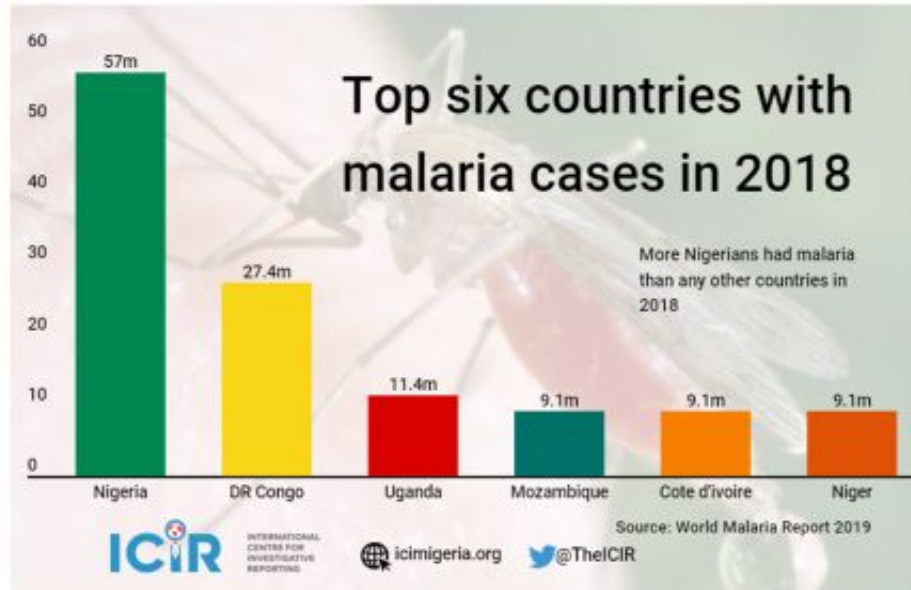
Chart: DATAPHYTE • Source: WHO • Created with Datawrapper

Four out of **five** malaria deaths occur in one of 15 countries:

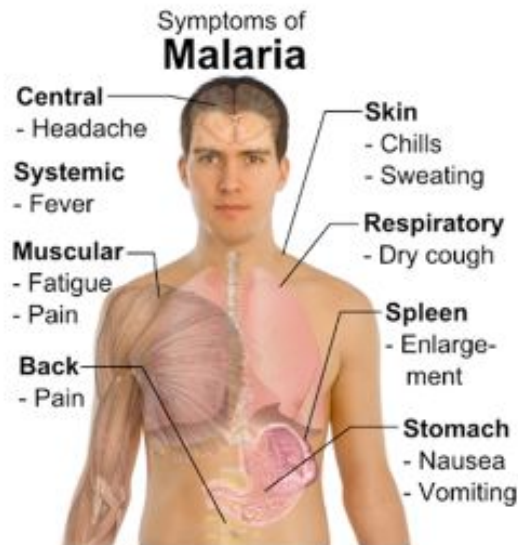
Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, India, Mozambique, Ghana, Angola, Uganda, Mali, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Tanzania, Cameroon, Niger, Guinea and Chad. UNICEF has a country office in all of these countries



More than **one** in **three** malaria deaths occur in two countries: Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of the Congo



The impact of the infection can be long-term and life-threatening, including: **anemia, coma, brain damage, loss of muscle function and death**



Many African and Southeast Asian countries have high poverty rates and people do not have access to malaria prevention and treatment, or are not educated on the disease



Malaria can pass from human to human:
You cannot “catch” malaria like you can a cold,
but people can pass it on by:
sharing needles
blood transfusions
through pregnancy
organ transplantation

When infected with malaria, symptoms can range from **none to severe**. It can take anywhere from 9-40 days for symptoms to appear.

Early symptoms can include fever, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, chills, headache, muscle aches, cough and sweating.

If not treated within 24 hours the disease can worsen, leading to seizures, impairment of brain and spinal cord function, loss of consciousness and death

**There is a cure for malaria.
However, new waves of drug-resistant malaria
are threatening the lives of millions**



The best **cure** for malaria is **prevention**.
There are two major ways that malaria is
prevented:

- Insecticide-treated mosquito netting placed around beds is a good way to keep people safe while they sleep
- Spraying a household with residual insecticide will effectively eliminate mosquitos in the house for three to six months.

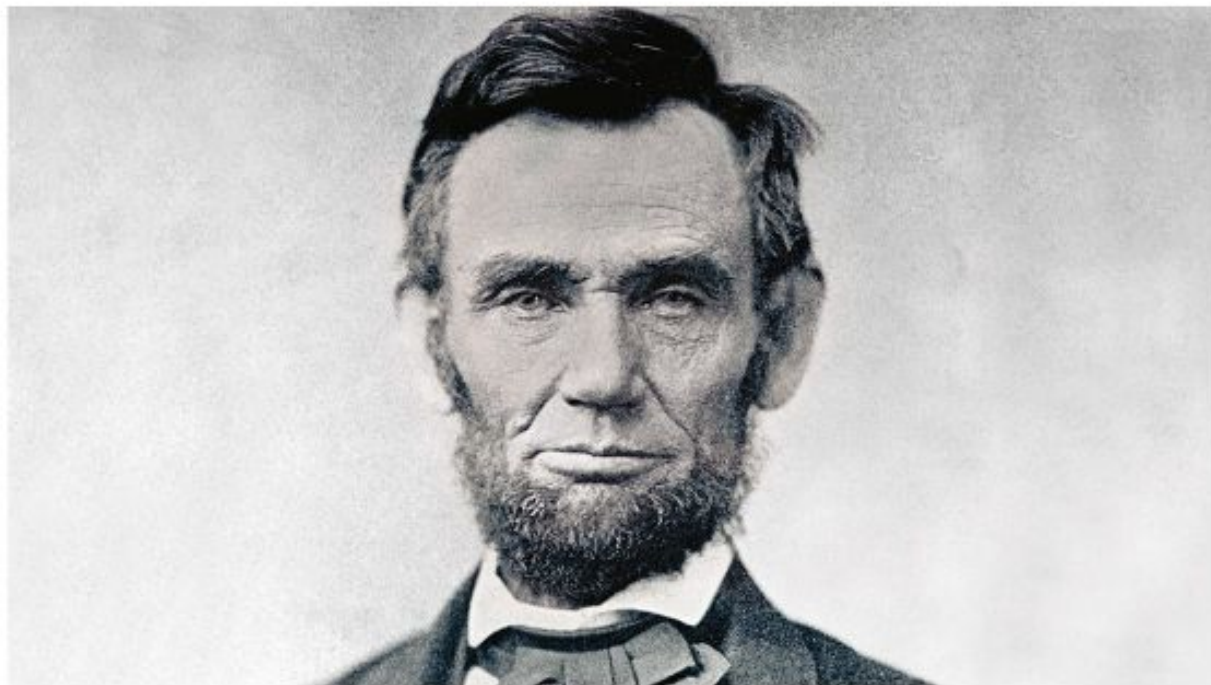
There is a promising vaccine currently being tested



George Washington first contracted malaria at age 17 in Virginia



Abraham Lincoln also got the disease while growing up [in Illinois]



*James Monroe got malaria when he visited
a particularly swampy area of the
Mississippi River*



***Andrew Jackson contracted malaria while
on the Seminole military campaigns in
Florida***



Ulysses S. Grant suffered from frequent bouts of malaria in the late 1850s while living on a farm outside of St. Louis



***James A. Garfield acquired malaria at
age 16 in Ohio***



Theodore Roosevelt came down with malaria after a visit to the Amazon rainforest



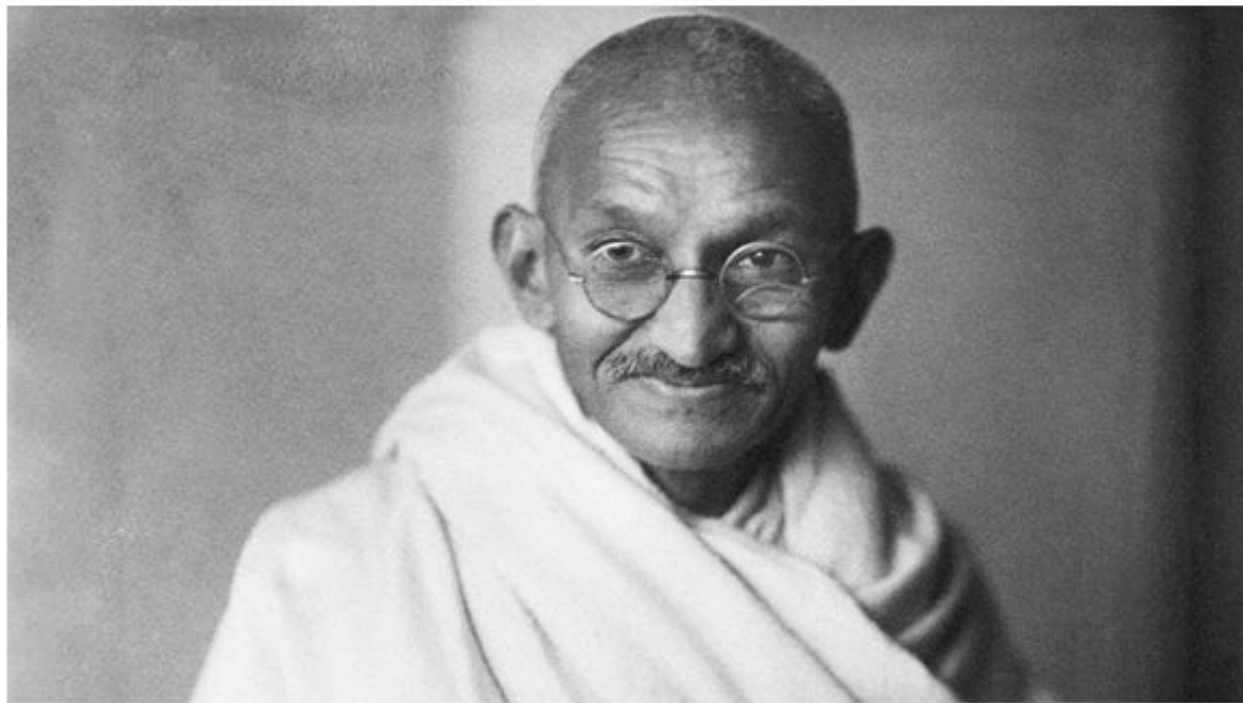
John F. Kennedy contracted malaria while in the Solomon Islands during World War II where he served as a PT boat captain



Errol Flynn



Mahatma Gandhi



Ernest Hemingway



Sir David Attenborough



Christopher Columbus



Michael Caine



Jeremy Piven



Anderson Cooper



Chris Matthews



Mother Teresa



Ending the Malaria epidemic worldwide by 2030
is a key objective within the UN Sustainable
Development Goal

FROM **Aspiration**
TO **Action**

What will it take to end Malaria?