



DISEASE 101: Malaria

What is Malaria?



Malaria is a preventable and curable life-threatening disease caused by parasites of the Plasmodium genus.

Did You Know?

Those at higher risk of severe malaria include children under 5, people who are pregnant, people with HIV/AIDS, and non-immune travelers.

People can protect themselves from malaria by avoiding mosquito bites, through measures such as using insect repellents, sleeping under insecticide-treated mosquito nets, and wearing protective clothing.

Protecting Yourself from Malaria



INSECT REPELLENTS



MOSQUITO REPELLENT NETS



PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Malaria can be both prevented and treated. The RTS,S vaccine is recommended for children in regions with moderate to high malaria transmission. Antimalarial medications are also available, and early treatment is crucial to prevent severe illness and death.

Source: [WHO](#) | Updated: January 2025

Disease Transmission

Malaria is transmitted through the bites from infected mosquitoes and can also be spread via blood transfusions or contaminated needles.



Symptoms

Malaria symptoms typically present as **fever, headache, and chills**. If not treated within 24 hours of fever onset, some cases of malaria can lead to severe complications or death.



FEVER



HEADACHE



CHILLS

By the Numbers

In 2022, there were an estimated 249 million malaria cases and 608,000 malaria deaths in 85 countries.



249 Million
malaria cases



608,000
deaths



85
countries reporting malaria