

Special Issue on  
**Malaria: Current Research Trends and Developments in  
Vaccines, Immunology, and Drug Treatment**

# CALL FOR PAPERS

Malaria undoubtedly remains the most prominent parasitic disease across the globe. Over 40% of the world's population is at risk of the infection. Recent estimation by WHO recorded around 214 million cases worldwide (2015), with the African Region accounting for almost 88% of the global cases, followed by 10% cases in the South-East Asia Region and 2% in the Eastern-Mediterranean. More than 400,000 malaria-related deaths occurred in 2015 with the majority involving children under five years of age.

Eradicating malaria has become very difficult despite the many efforts and programs conducted to combat the disease. Controlling the *Anopheles* mosquitoes, the vector for the parasites, is such a big challenge since they are increasingly resistant towards the insecticides used. Vaccine is undoubtedly the best solution but no effective vaccine has so far been licensed for malaria. Vaccine development also faces many technical challenges as the parasites are multistrained with complex life cycles and high mutability. Chemotherapeutic agents against malaria are considered a failure as many antimalarial drugs available nowadays are facing resistance problem. Rapidly emerging new drug-resistant strains of the parasites have threatened to leave the existing chemotherapeutic agents powerless against the infection. All these problems basically call for more research efforts into malaria with the ultimate aim of finding the best solutions in dealing with the disease.

This special issue aimed to highlight the current development and progress in malaria research. We welcome researchers to contribute their original research articles as well as review articles addressing the recent developments in malaria vaccine research, pathogenesis and host-parasite interaction in malaria, and advances in drug development and treatment against the disease.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Drug resistance against malaria and its current status
- ▶ Recent developments in the understanding of host-parasite interaction and immune response against malaria
- ▶ Pathogenesis of malaria infection
- ▶ New antimalarial treatment and strategies
- ▶ Investigations into new lead compounds and drug candidates against malaria
- ▶ Current methodologies or procedures for malaria diagnosis
- ▶ Current antimalarial drug regimens
- ▶ Vaccine development and potential vaccine candidates against malaria
- ▶ Screening for potential antimalarial agents from natural products
- ▶ New host-parasite combinations and animal models of malaria infection
- ▶ Critical reviews or evaluations on the current drug treatment, drug design, and vaccine design

Authors can submit their manuscripts through the Manuscript Tracking System at <http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/jtm/malaria/>.

Papers are published upon acceptance, regardless of the Special Issue publication date.

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