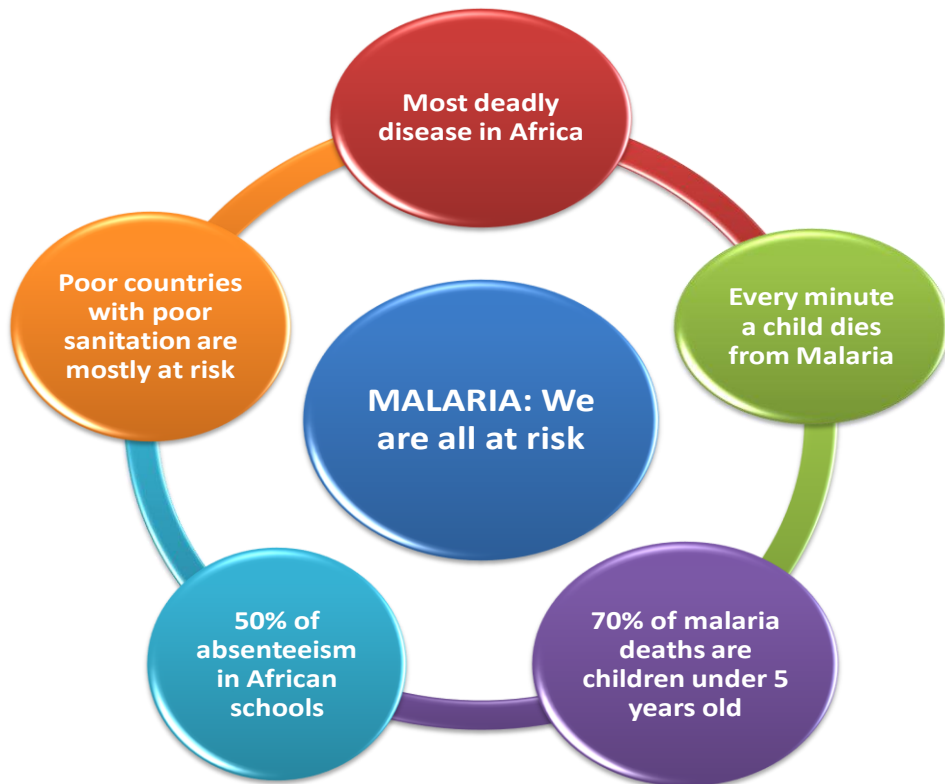


# WORLD MALARIA DAY

25 April 2015



“INVEST IN THE  
FUTURE  
DEFEAT MALARIA”

## WHAT DOES MALARIA FEEL LIKE?

1. It starts with a quick, painless bite from an infected mosquito carrying the malaria parasite



2. Within minutes the parasite travels to the liver and infect red blood cells.
3. First symptoms are flu-like: headache, fever, fatigue and nausea.

## IF UNTREATED MALARIA BECOMES LIFE-THREATENING AND CAN LEAD TO:

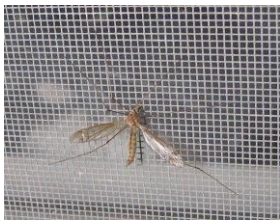
- Severe anemia
- Respiratory distress
- Pulmonary oedema
- Liver failure and jaundice
- Kidney failure
- Hypoglycemia
- Dehydration
- Brain infection
- Shock
- Coma
- Seizures
- Death

# FACTS ABOUT MALARIA

- According to the World Health Organization, 3.4 Billion people (half the world's population) are at risk of malaria and 627,000 people die each year from malaria - 90% of the deaths are in sub-Saharan Africa
- Malaria is particularly dangerous in children under 5 years. Malaria killed an estimated 482 000 children in 2012
- Between 2000 and 2012, the global malaria mortality rate was reduced by 49% in the African region
- Malaria is hyper-endemic in Ghana
- Plasmodium falciparum is responsible of the deaths and morbidity associated with malaria in Ghana, accounting for about 90-98% of malaria cases
- The incubation period of malaria is from 10 -14 days
- In many parts of the world, parasites have developed resistance to malaria treatment
- Falciparum malaria during pregnancy is extremely dangerous to mother and foetus
- Malaria in pregnancy can lead to serious complications: Maternal anemia, spontaneous abortion, pre-term birth, pre-maturity, low birth weight
- In Ghana, malaria contributes to more than 9% of maternal deaths.

## MALARIA IS A PREVENTABLE AND CURABLE DISEASE

### Prevention is the key!



Doors and windows net



Bed mosquito net



Long sleeves outdoor clothes



Repellent application



House spraying



Stagnant water elimination

### Treatment is crucial!

#### 1. **TEST: EVERY SUSPECTED MALARIA CASE SHOULD BE TESTED!**

The diagnosis malaria is based on clinical features and confirmed with malaria rapid diagnostic test (RDT) or laboratory blood testing.

#### 2. **TREAT: EVERY CONFIRMED CASE SHOULD BE TREATED WITH QUALITY-ASSURED ANTIMALARIAL MEDICINE.**

Appropriate treatment of malaria is critical to prevent progression to complicated malaria or death.

Treatment is also meant to reduce transmission of the infection to others, by reducing the infectious reservoir in the community.