

# Evaluate impact of rectal artesunate on resolution of severe malaria and mortality (Bangladesh)

<b>Submission date</b> 01/02/2006	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
<b>Registration date</b> 01/02/2006	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Last Edited</b> 23/02/2009	<b>Condition category</b> Infections and Infestations	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
		<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

**Plain English summary of protocol**  
Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

**Contact name**  
Dr Melba Gomes

**Contact details**  
20, Avenue Appia  
Geneva-27  
Switzerland  
CH 1211  
+41 (0)22 791 3813  
gomesm@who.int

## Additional identifiers

**EudraCT/CTIS number**

**IRAS number**

**ClinicalTrials.gov number**

**Secondary identifying numbers**  
N/A

# Study information

## Scientific Title

### Study objectives

The objective has been to establish whether, in patients with acute malaria who cannot take medication by mouth, rectal artesunate plus referral differs from rectal placebo plus referral in terms of death or permanent disability.

### Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

### Ethics approval(s)

Ethics approval received on the 8th July 1998.

### Study design

Randomised controlled trial

### Primary study design

Interventional

### Secondary study design

Randomised controlled trial

### Study setting(s)

Not specified

### Study type(s)

Treatment

## Participant information sheet

### Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Malaria

### Interventions

The sample size determination in the protocol specified that a total of 10,000 non per os patients would need to be randomised in order to detect a reduction of mortality from 5% to 3%.

Individual patients will be randomised to receive either AS suppository (intervention group) or placebo (comparator group). Patients in both groups will then be referred immediately to the nearest hospital/health centre where all supportive treatment will be provided.

### Intervention Type

Drug

### Phase

Not Specified

**Drug/device/biological/vaccine name(s)**

Artesunate (AS)

**Primary outcome measure**

1. Number of relevant deaths in the intervention and control arm assessed 7 - 30 days after enrolment (relevant defined as malaria positive patients in whom the death was probably /definitely preventable by the intervention)
2. Number of individuals with serious neurological disability in the intervention and control arms assessed at 7 - 30 days following enrolment in the study. Neurological disability defined as the development of new problems with feeding, walking, talking, sitting, sight, hearing, playing, balance and behaviour

**Secondary outcome measures**

1. Number of deaths in the intervention and control arm assessed 7 - 30 days following enrolment in the study
2. Number of cases of neurological disability in the intervention and control arms assessed at 7 - 30 days following enrolment in the study
3. Number of cases of neurological disability in malaria smear positive patients in the intervention and control arms assessed at 7 - 30 days following enrolment in the study
4. Number of cases of neurological disability in children in the intervention and control arms assessed at 7 - 30 days following enrolment in the study
5. Number of cases of neurological disability in pregnant women in the intervention and control arms assessed at 7 - 30 days following enrolment in the study
6. Number of deaths and neurological sequelae in the intervention and control arm in malaria smear positive patients who survived at least 8 hours but died before 7 days after enrolment in the study

**Overall study start date**

08/07/1998

**Completion date**

08/07/2000

**Eligibility****Key inclusion criteria**

1. Children above crawling age and adults of any age group
2. Clinical diagnosis of probable *P. falciparum* malaria (fever, or history of fever without any other obvious cause of fever). Clinical features must include fever or history of fever and at least one of the following:
  - 2.1. Unable to take food, drink or suck
  - 2.2. Prostration: inability to sit, stand or walk unaided
  - 2.3. Any abnormal level of consciousness i.e. from abnormal behavior, obtunded (limited response to painful stimulus), to coma (unconsciousness with absent verbal response and non-specific or absent motor response)
  - 2.4. Fits or history of fits (defined as more than one fit in the previous 24 hours)
3. Consent by patient or parent/guardian if patient is less than 18
4. Community informed consent - at the start of the study in that area, community consent to the project would have been obtained

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Age group**

Not Specified

**Sex**

Not Specified

**Target number of participants**

In this trial, it is not the number of patients recruited but the number of deaths that determine the statistical power of such a trial.

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. Afebrile (history/examination)
  2. Unwillingness to sign (or parental signature) informed consent for study participation
  3. Ability to take oral medication
  4. Diarrhoea (at least two loose bowel movements in the previous two hours)
- N.B. Pregnant or breast-feeding women will not be excluded from the study. Status of pregnancy in female will be noted in the Case Record Form (CRF).

**Date of first enrolment**

08/07/1998

**Date of final enrolment**

08/07/2000

## **Locations**

**Countries of recruitment**

Bangladesh

Switzerland

**Study participating centre**

20, Avenue Appia

Geneva-27

Switzerland

CH 1211

## **Sponsor information**

**Organisation**

UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR)

**Sponsor details**

20, Avenue Appia  
Geneva-27  
Switzerland  
CH 1211

**Sponsor type**

Research organisation

**Website**

<http://www.who.int/>

**ROR**

<https://ror.org/01f80g185>

**Funder(s)****Funder type**

Research organisation

**Funder Name**

Sources of funding:

**Funder Name**

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)  
/World Bank/World Health Organization (WHO) - Special Programme for Research and Training  
in Tropical Diseases (TDR)

**Funder Name**

European Commission (Belgium)

**Alternative Name(s)**

European Union, Comisión Europea, Europäische Kommission, EU-Kommissionen, Euroopa Komisjoni, Ευρωπαϊκής Επιτροπής, Европейската комисия, Evropské komise, Commission européenne, Choimisiúin Eorpaigh, Europskoj komisiji, Commissione europea, La Commissione europea, Eiropas Komisiju, Europos Komisijos, Európai Bizottságról, Europese Commissie, Komisja Europejska, Comissão Europeia, Comisia Europeană, Európskej komisii, Evropski komisiji, Euroopan komission, Europeiska kommissionen, EC, EU

**Funding Body Type**

Government organisation

**Funding Body Subtype**

National government

**Location**

**Funder Name**

WHO Global Malaria Programme

**Funder Name**

US Agency for International Development (USAID) (USA)

**Funder Name**

Irish Aid (Ireland)

**Funder Name**

Karolinska Institutet (Sweden)

**Alternative Name(s)**

Karolinska Institute, KI

**Funding Body Type**

Government organisation

**Funding Body Subtype**

Local government

**Location**

Sweden

**Funder Name**

Sall Family Foundation (USA)

**Alternative Name(s)**

**Funding Body Type**

Private sector organisation

**Funding Body Subtype**

Trusts, charities, foundations (both public and private)

**Location**

United States of America

**Funder Name**

University of Oxford Clinical Trial Service Unit (UK)

## Results and Publications

**Publication and dissemination plan**

Not provided at time of registration

**Intention to publish date****Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan****IPD sharing plan summary**

Not provided at time of registration

**Study outputs**

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	14/02/2009		Yes	No