

# Malaria

Also called: plasmodium infection

A disease caused by a plasmodium parasite, transmitted by the bite of infected mosquitoes.

## Common

More than 1 million cases per year (India)



Treatable by a medical professional



Spreads by animals or insects



Requires a medical diagnosis



Lab tests or imaging always required



Short-term: resolves within days to weeks

The severity of malaria varies based on the species of plasmodium.

Symptoms are chills, fever and sweating, usually occurring a few weeks after being bitten.

People travelling to areas where malaria is common typically take protective drugs before, during and after their trip. Treatment includes antimalarial drugs.

## How it spreads

By animal or insect bites or stings.

By blood products (unclean needles or unscreened blood).

## Symptoms

### Requires a medical diagnosis

Symptoms are chills, fever and sweating, usually occurring a few weeks after being bitten.

### People may experience:

**Pain areas:** in the muscles

**Whole body:** chills, fatigue, fever, malaise, shivering, or sweating

**Also common:** fast heart rate, headache, nausea, or pallor

**Critical:** consult a doctor for medical advice

Note: The information you see describes what usually happens with a medical condition, but doesn't apply to everyone. This information isn't medical advice, so make sure that you contact a health care provider if you have a medical problem. If you think you may have a medical emergency, call your doctor or a emergency number immediately.

**Sources:** Apollo Hospitals and others. [Learn more](#)