Single Patch Plasmodium falciparum model

Mathematical model description

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This document provides a description of the methodology, equations and parameters underlying the mathematical model for *P. falciparum* malaria transmission.

Plasmodium falciparum sub-model

We use a compartmental model for the transmission of *P. falciparum* malaria. It's structure is similar to previously published models [1-6]. There are four infection classes in this model representing infections that are: severe; clinical; asymptomatic and detectable by microscopy; asymptomatic and undetectable by microscopy. Each infection class has a distribution of parasitaemia associated with it that is used to estimate the sensitivity of various diagnostic tests. Each infection class also has an infectiousness associated with it based on infectivity data. The probability of individuals entering each class of infection is dependent on their immunity status. We assume that untreated individuals will transition from higher to lower severity infection classes as they recover and that they can be boosted to higher severity classes on superinfection. We assume that treated individuals test positive for HRP2 after clearance of asexual parasitaemia for different durations depending on the detection limit of the test used.

The system is depicted in Figure 1 and described by the following set of ordinary differential equations with compartment descriptions in Table 1:

$$\begin{split} \frac{dS}{dt} &= \mu P(t) - \mu S - \Lambda(t)S + \omega R \\ \frac{dI_n}{dt} &= -\mu I_n + p_{sn}(1-p_s)\Lambda(t)S - r_nI_n + r_aI_a - (1-p_{rn})(1-p_r)\Lambda(t)I_n - p_r\Lambda(t)I_n + p_{rn}(1-p_r)\Lambda(t)(R+H) \\ \frac{dI_a}{dt} &= -\mu I_a + (1-p_{sn})(1-p_s)\Lambda(t)S + (1-p_{sev})r_cI_c - r_aI_a + (1-p_{rn})(1-p_r)\Lambda(t)I_n - p_r\Lambda(t)I_a + (1-p_{rn})(1-p_r)\Lambda(t)(R+H) + ptf(1-ptfc)r_t(T_o + T_v + T_h) \\ \frac{dI_c}{dt} &= -\mu I_c + (1-\tau)p_s\Lambda(t)S + (1-\tau_{sev})(1-\theta_1)r_sI_s - (1-p_{sev})r_cI_c - p_{sev}r_cI_c + p_r(1-\tau)\Lambda(t)(I_n + I_a + R + H) + ptf(ptfc)(1-ptftr)r_t(T_o + T_v + T_h) \\ \frac{dI_s}{dt} &= -\mu I_s - (1-\tau_{sev})r_sI_s - \tau_{sev}r_QI_s + p_{sev}r_cI_c \\ \frac{dT_o}{dt} &= -\mu I_o + \tau_o p_s\Lambda(t)S - (1-ptf)r_tT_o + p_r\tau_o\Lambda(t)(I_n + I_a + R + H) \\ \frac{dT_v}{dt} &= -\mu T_v + \tau_v p_s\Lambda(t)S - (1-ptf)r_tT_v + p_r\tau_v\Lambda(t)(I_n + I_a + R + H) \\ \frac{dT_h}{dt} &= -\mu T_h + \tau_h p_s\Lambda(t)S - (1-ptf)r_tT_h + p_r\tau_h\Lambda(t)(I_n + I_a + R + H) + ptf(ptfc)(ptftr)r_t(T_o + T_v + T_h) \\ \frac{dR}{dt} &= -\mu R + r_nI_n - \Lambda(t)R - \omega R + \chi H \\ \frac{dH}{dt} &= -\mu H + (1-ptf)r_t(T_o + T_v + T_h) + \tau_{sev}(1-\theta_2)r_QI_s - \Lambda(t)H - \chi H \end{split}$$

where

$$\begin{split} P &= S + I_n + I_a + I_c + I_s + T_o + T_v + T_h + R + H \\ \Lambda(t) &= (1/\lambda(t) + 1/\gamma_h + 1/\gamma_m)^{-1} \\ \lambda(t) &= seas(t) \frac{b^2 \epsilon_h \epsilon_m \frac{M}{P(t)} I(t)}{(b\epsilon_h \frac{M}{P(t)} + \delta_m)(\frac{\gamma_m}{\gamma_m + \delta_m})} \\ I(t) &= \frac{\zeta_n I_n(t) + \zeta_a I_a(t) + I_c(t) + I_s(t)}{P(t)} \\ seas(t) &= 1 + eln * a * cos(2\pi(t - \phi)) \\ \tau &= \tau_o + \tau_v + \tau_h \end{split}$$

where eln is the Bivariate ENSO (El Niño southern oscillation) index time series standardised between 0 and 1 and smoothed with a running median to estimate effect size. (Accessible at: http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/data/climateindices/).

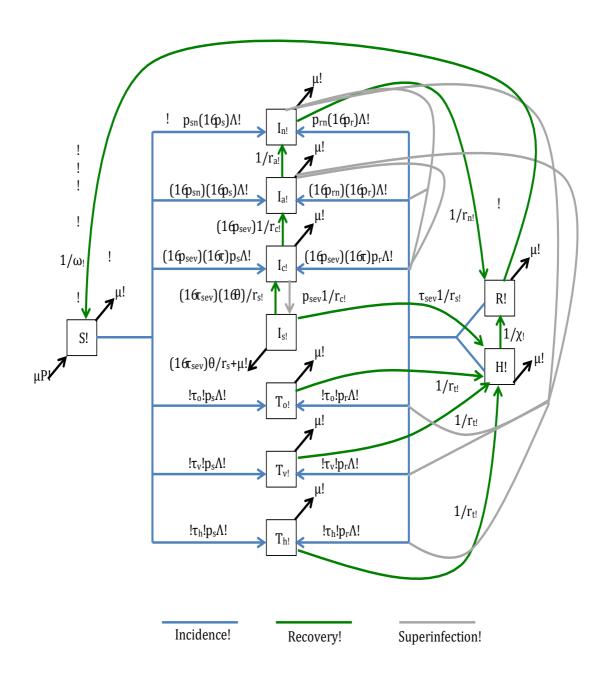


Figure 1 Plasmodium falciparum model flow diagram

Table 1 Model Variables

Symbol	Definition				
Falciparum Variables					
S	Uninfected and non-immune population				
Н	Uninfected and immune population who test positive by RDT				
R	Uninfected and immune population				
In	Infected and asymptomatic malaria population undetectable by				
	microscopy				
IA	Infected and asymptomatic malaria population detectable by				
	microscopy				
Ic	Infected and clinical malaria population				
Is	Infected and severe malaria population				
To	Population under effective treatment by other means (E.g. Private care)				
Tv	Population under effective treatment by Village Malaria Worker				
Тн	Population under effective treatment through Health Information				
	System				

Table 2 Model Parameters

Symbol	Definition	Value	Units	Sim Range	Source		
	Parameters						
М	Maximum populations of mosquitoes		num		estimated from data		
ϕ	Month of peak transmission	7	month		estimated from data		
а	Amplitude of seasonal variation	1	na	(0,1)	assumption		
δ_{m}	Average life expectancy of mosquito	14	days	(10,20)	[7, 8]		
b	Number of mosquito bites per human per day	1/3	day-1	(0.1,0.5)	[9, 10]		
€m	Probability that a bite from an infectious mosquito will result in infection	50	%	(20,50)	[10-12]		
1/γм	Duration of latent period in mosquitoes	10	days	(5, 15)	[7, 13-17]		
effirs	Effectiveness of indoor residual spraying	30	%	(0, 50)	[18]		
effitn	Effectiveness of bednets	44	%	(0, 50)	[18]		
hlnet	Half-life of bednets	1.5	year	(1, 2)	[19]		
effvмw	Effectiveness of Village Malaria Worker	0	%		estimated from data		
eff HIS	Effectiveness of Health Information System	25	%	(50,80)	estimated from data		
effотн	Effectiveness of other treatment systems	10	%	(5, 15)	estimated from data		
$1/\mu$	Average life expectancy of the population	63	year	(68,75)	[20]		
eln	Smoothing parameter of el niño effect	21			estimated		
p s	Proportion of non-immune individuals expected to develop clinical malaria after infection	90	%	(80,100)	[15, 21]		
рr	Proportion of immune individuals expected to develop clinical malaria after infection	10	%	(0,77)	[22]		

psn	Proportion of non-immune individuals expected to develop sub-patent infection upon challenge	10	%	(0,20)	assumption
p RN	Proportion of immune individuals expected to develop sub-patent infection upon challenge	50	%	(30,70)	assumption
1/r s	Duration of symptoms in an untreated severe infection	10	day	(5,15)	[23, 24]
1/ <i>r</i> c	Duration of symptoms in an untreated clinical infection	10	days	(5,15)	[23, 24]
1/r A	Duration of symptoms in an untreated asymptomatic infection	130	days	(60, 200)	[25-27]
au sev	Proportion of severe malaria that is treated	80	%	(0, 100)	assumption
p sev	Proportion of clinical infections that become severe	3	%	(5,25)	[28, 29]
ζA	Relative infectiousness of asymptomatic infection compared to clinical infection	12.6/27	na	(0,0.50)	[30]
ζN	Relative infectiousness of sub-patent infection compared to clinical infection	3.9/27	na	(0., 0.25)	[31]
$1/\omega$	Duration of immunity in an individual without challenge	5	year	(0.5,10)	[26]
θ1	Probability that untreated severe malaria progresses to death	70	%	(50,80)	[29]
θ_2	Probability that treated severe malaria progresses to death	2	%	(1,20)	estimated from data
E h	Probability that a bite from an infectious human will result in infection	50	%	(7,64)	[14, 32]
1/γн	Incubation period and time to gametocytemia in humans	21	days	(14,24)	[14-17, 33]
1/χ	Period of HRP2 detectability by RDT	28	days	(21,37)	[34-36]
1/r _T	Time taken to clear asexual parasites after treatment	3	day	(3,7)	[37]
1/rq	Recovery time with quinine for severe infections	6	days	(4,8)	[38]
ptf	Baseline probability of treatment failure on ACT	5	%	(1,10)	assumption
ptfc	Probability of being clinical after treatment failure	0.75	%	(0.5, 0.9)	assumption
ptftr	Probability of seeking trt if clinical, after treatment failure	0.27	%	(0.1, 0.4)	Estimated from data

Sub-patent infection and diagnostics

We assume that parasitaemia (parasites per µl) within each infection class (sub-patent, asymptomatic and clinical) is log-normally distributed as described in [39]. We also use a mixture model approach to obtain the distribution for severe infection using the data from [40].

The following table summarises the model parameters and their sources:

Description	Unit	Pf Value	Ref	Pv Value	Ref
Geometric mean parasitaemia for subpatent infections (mnn)	μl-1	5	[41]	5	[41, 42]
Geometric mean parasitaemia for asymptomatic infections(mn _A)	μl-1	5158	[41]	750	
Geometric mean parasitaemia for clinical infections(mnc)	μl-1	25000	[40, 43]	5000	[44]
Geometric mean parasitaemia for severe infections(mns)	μl-1	350000	[40]	20000	[45]
Log standard deviation of log-normal parasite distribution for sub-patent infections	-	0.75		0.75	
Log standard deviation of log-normal parasite distribution for asymptomatic infections	-	1.5	[43, 46]	1.5	[40, 43]
Log standard deviation of log-normal parasite distribution for clinical infections	-	1.3	[40, 43]	1.3	[8, 40]
Log standard deviation of log-normal parasite distribution for severe infections	-	0.26	[40]	4	[8]

The following table describes the detection limits also described in [39]:

Description	Units	Pf Value	Ref
Detection limit for conventional RDT	μl-1	200	[47]
Detection limit for microscopy	μl-1	100	[47]
Detection limit for proposed RDT	μl-1	5	[48, 49]
Detection limit for conventional qPCR	μl-1	0.2	[50]

Test sensitivity:

The parameters above are used to compute diagnostic sensitivity. For each disease class, i, the sensitivity of a test, x, with detection limit, d_T , is given by the formula: $sens_{i,x} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \left[1 + erf\left(\frac{d_T - \mu_i}{\sigma_i^2 \sqrt[3]{2}}\right) \right]$

$$sens_{i,x} = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \left[1 + erf\left(\frac{d_T - \mu_i}{\sigma_i^2 \sqrt{2}}\right) \right]$$

Where μ_i and σ_i are the log-mean and the log-standard deviation of the log-normal distribution of parasitaemia for disease class i ε {sub-patent, asymptomatic, clinical, severe).

Test specificity:

It has been shown that treated individuals remain positive by conventional RDT for approximately 28 days after successful clearance of asexual parasites [34-36]. An H compartment (individuals recently recovered who are not infected but test positive by RDT) has therefore been included in the model in order to simulate this. The duration of time spent in the H compartment is dependent on the sensitivity of the RDT to detect HRP2 which is assumed to be linearly correlated with its asexual parasite detection limit.

Duration in each infection class:

For severe, clinical and asymptomatic infection the duration of infection is well documented. For sub-patent infection, we assume that the duration of sub-patent infection, δ_N , can be extrapolated from the duration of infection of asymptomatic infection, δ_A , and an assumption of log-linear decline in parasitaemia using the following formula:

$$\delta_N = \delta_A \frac{\mu_N - d_0}{\mu_A - \mu_N}$$

Where μ_N is the log-mean of the log-normal distribution of parasitaemia for sub-patent infection, μ_A is the log-mean of the log-normal distribution of parasitaemia for asymptomatic infection and d_0 is the detection limit of the most sensitive test (qPCR). Using the parameters above, we would expect sub-patent infection to be detectable by qPCR for 75 days.

Force of infection and Seasonality

The force of infection on humans, λ is derived by assuming that mosquito dynamics of an SEI model are at a steady state resulting in the following:

$$\Lambda(t) = (1/\lambda(t) + 1/\gamma_h + 1/\gamma_m)^{-1}$$

$$\lambda(t) = seas(t) \frac{b^2 \epsilon_h \epsilon_m \frac{M}{P(t)} I(t)}{(b \epsilon_h \frac{M}{P(t)} + \delta_m)(\frac{\gamma_m}{\gamma_m + \delta_m})}$$

$$I(t) = \frac{\zeta_n I_n(t) + \zeta_a I_a(t) + I_c(t) + I_s(t)}{P(t)}$$

$$seas(t) = 1 + eln * a * cos(2\pi(t - \phi))$$

where eln is the Bivariate ENSO (El Niño southern oscillation) index time series standardised between 0 and 1 and smoothed with a running median to estimate effect size. (Accessible at: http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/data/climateindices/).

Model Interventions

The table below summarises the impact that each of the interventions modelled has on model parameters/equations.

Intervention	Description	Model Impact				
Passive treatment	Treatment probabilities (τ) for					
	different avenues of treatment (v, h,	See below				
	o) dependent on coverage (cov),					
	treatment-seeking and treatment					
	effectiveness (eff) and diagnostic					
	sensitivity (sens)					
	$\tau_v = cov_v \times eff_v \times sens_v$					
_	$\tau_h = (1 - cov_v eff_v) \times eff_h \times ef$					
τ_o	$= (1 - cov_v eff_v - (1 - cov_v eff_v) eff_h$	$) \times eff_0 \times sens_0$				
Long Lasting	Net distribution as a proportion of	See below				
Insecticide-	the population at risk (<i>itn</i>) and the	See Below				
treated Nets	half-life of the net (<i>hlnet</i>) are used to					
ti catca ivets	compute cumulative coverage					
	(itncov). This, together with usage					
	and ability to prevent transmission					
	(itneff) is used to decrease the					
	transmission function λ					
	$itncov_t = itn_t + 0.5itncov_{t-1}e^{-1}$	1 				
	$\lambda_t^* = (1 - itncov_t \times itneff)$	× 1.				
	n_t (1 teneout \times teneoff)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
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Indoor residual	Number of people protected by IRS	See below				
spraying	as a proportion of the population at					
	risk (<i>irs</i>) and the half-life of the insectide (<i>hlspray</i>) are used to					
	compute cumulative coverage					
	(irscov). This, together with ability to					
	prevent transmission (<i>irseff</i>) is used					
	to decrease the transmission					
	function λ					
	$irscov_t = irs_t + 0.5irscov_{t-1}e^{-\frac{1}{12}/(hlspray)}$					
	$\lambda_t^* = (1 - irscov_t \times irseff)$	\times Λ_t				
Injectable	Switching from treatment of severe	Parameters decreased:				
artesunate	infections with quinine to injectable	1/r _Q – recovery time				
	artesunate	pmort – probability of death of				
		treated severe infections				
Seasonal Malaria	Active preventative treatment at	Parameters affected				
Chemoprevention	selected coverage levels for a	cov_smc - SMC coverage (data)				
_	duration determined by the policy in	dur_smc - Duration of SMC				
	place	(data)				
	tauSMC: rate of deploying SMC					
	nuSMC: rate of recovery from SMC					
	$tauSMC = \frac{(-\log(1 - covSMC))}{1.442}$					
$\frac{tuasmc}{1/12}$						

nuSMC = 12/durSMC					
Intermittent Preventative Treatment for Pregnant women (IPTp)	Active preventative treatment at selected coverage levels for up to 5 doses determined by the policy in place	Parameters affected: fert rate – fertility rate (data) anc_rate - rate of attendance to Antenatal care (data) iptp_dose_i - coverage of IPTp doses			
$covIPTp = fertrate * ancrate * \sum_{i=1}^{n} iptp_dose_i$ $tauIPTp = \frac{(-\log{(1 - covIPTp)})}{12/12}$					

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