



**MALARIA
FREE
ITALY**

Breakthroughs in knowledge of *Plasmodium vivax* malaria: is *vivax* still a neglected human malaria parasite?

19 November 2020

Organized by

ISTITUTO SUPERIORE DI SANITÀ (ISS)
Department of Infectious Diseases

Relevance

The concepts of *Plasmodium vivax* malaria as a relatively mild disease and the protection of Duffy negative people have been recently revisited. Growing evidence that severe manifestations of *P. vivax* disease are common and the circulation of *P. vivax* in Duffy-negative people are new aspects of the biology of this parasite. Latest scientific reports on the emergence and spread of antimalarial drug resistance and the complexity of the surveillance underlines the need for re-defining the research needs and reinforce effective strategies for *vivax*-specific control. The congress directly focuses the attention on the revisited traditional concept of *P. vivax* as “benign” parasite and recognizes the importance of an update on *P. vivax* current research, often neglected. The invited speakers, with diverse expertise will discuss new key features of the biology, clinical aspect, pathogenesis, treatments and epidemiology that are changing the scenario of our knowledge of the parasite and will review recent progress in many research fields. The landscape of *P. vivax* malaria is constantly changing and the congress is an opportunity to consider with a renewed attention *P. vivax* infections as a priority to overcome the challenges of malaria control.

Aim

The aim of the webinar is to share with a panel of experts the recent advances in knowledge on *Plasmodium vivax* biology and to evaluate, from an epidemiological point of view, the risk of reintroduction of this malaria parasite in Europe.

PROGRAMME

- 13.45 Log into the platform
- 14.00 Official Welcome
Luigi Bertinato, Istituto Superiore di Sanità Presidency
- 14.05 Opening Remarks
Carlo Severini, Department of Infectious Diseases
- 14.10 *Plasmodium vivax* & the Contributions of Italian Malariology
Georges Snounou
- 14.40 *Vivax* malaria and drug resistance, the inevitable loss
Stéphane Picot
- 14.55 *Plasmodium vivax* transmission in duffy-negative people
Didier Menard
- 15.15 Clinical severe forms due to *P. vivax* infection and the current therapeutic approach?
Marcus Lacerda
- 15.30 *Plasmodium vivax* re-emergence risk in temperate climate areas
Eskild Petersen
- 15.45 *Plasmodium vivax* re-introduction risk in Greece
Danai Pervanidou
- 16.00 *Plasmodium vivax* malaria in Iran
Ahmad Raeisi
- 16.15 General discussion and closing remarks
- 16.30 End of the meeting

SPEAKERS (in alphabetical order)

Marcus VG Lacerda - Tropical Medicine Foundation *Dr. Heitor Vieira Dourado* (FMT-HVD), Manaus, Brazil

Didier Menard - Malaria Genetic and Resistance Unit, Biology of Host-Parasite Interactions Unit, Institut Pasteur, Paris, France

Danai Pervanidou - Vector-borne Diseases Department, Directorate for Epidemiological Surveillance and Intervention for Infectious Diseases, Hellenic National Public Health Organization, Athens, Greece

Eskild Petersen - Department of Infectious Diseases, Aarhus University Hospital Skejby, Aarhus, Denmark

Stéphane Picot - Institute of Parasitology and Medical Mycology, Lyon University Hospital, Lyon, France; Malaria Research Unit, National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS UMR 5246), Lyon, France

Ahmad Raeisi - National program manager for malaria control, Ministry of Health, Shahr-a-Qods, Tehran, I.R.Iran

Georges Snounou - IDMIT Department, IBFJ, DRF, CEA-Université Paris Sud 11-INSERM U1184, Immunology of Viral Infections and Autoimmune Diseases (IMVA), Fontenay-aux-Roses, France

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Venue

The event will take place on StarLeaf online platform, at the following link:

<https://live.starleaf.com/OTUwMTMyNzI6MDIyODE1>

Target audience

The meeting is addressed to health and research Institutions' personnel interested in research studies on *Plasmodium vivax* infections.

How to register and participate

Participation is free of charge.

A maximum of 90 selected participants will be admitted to the videoconference.

To subscribe, please fill in and send the *(link non ancora disponibile)* **by 17 November 2020.**

An invitation e-mail, provided with the access link, will be sent to the first 90 enrolled people.

Participants not receiving the invitation e-mail will be able to follow the meeting work as well, via streaming, at the above cited link.

Satisfaction questionnaire

Participants will be kindly requested via mail, in the succeeding days, to fill an online satisfaction questionnaire out.

Attendance certificate

Among the selected participants, those willing an attendance certificate are kindly requested to apply for it to the Organizing Secretariat.

Certifications will be sent to those who will be proved to have been logged on the platform for at least 75% of the entire duration of the meeting.

Selected participants are, therefore, invited to write their name and surname correctly, while logging on. Lack of these data will not allow registration of presence on the platform.

For any further information, please contact the Scientific Secretariat at the above contact details