2023 Sponsored Symposia

These Sponsored Symposia are held in conjunction with the 2023 Annual Meeting. All in-person Annual Meeting attendees have access to the Sponsored Symposia. These sessions add value to the Annual Meeting attendee experience.

Climate Change and Malaria Elimination: Perspectives from the Ground

Grand Hall K - Ballroom Level (East Tower)
Friday, October 20, 7 a.m. – 8.45 a.m.

This sponsored symposium will review country experiences and perspectives on impacts of climate change on the global malaria response. Panelists will discuss effects of extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and changing rainfall patterns, which can directly impact the transmission dynamics of malaria.

Climate change can contribute to unpredictable rainy seasons and malaria patterns and create new breeding sites for mosquitoes. Differences in weather elements like temperature, rainfall distribution, and humidity greatly influence both the lifespan of mosquitoes and the development of malaria parasites within them and, subsequently, on malaria transmission. These complex interactions pose significant challenges to malaria elimination efforts, where resources and infrastructure may already be limited.

Understanding these interconnections will provide valuable insights into how changing climatic conditions influence malaria transmission dynamics, allowing countries to identify the challenges and vulnerabilities faced in their malaria elimination efforts under the influence of climate change, and to develop targeted strategies that address their specific context, enhancing resilience and effectiveness in combating malaria amidst a changing climate.

Program Agenda

7:00 AM - 7:20 AM
Continental Breakfast And Networking
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Description</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:20 AM - 7:27 AM</td>
<td>Welcome and Framing Remarks</td>
<td>Simon Bland, CEO, GLIDE</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:27 AM – 7:30 AM</td>
<td>Moderation and introductions</td>
<td>Diana Yousef, Technical Advisor, GLIDE</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 AM - 7:45 AM</td>
<td>Keynote Remarks: Overview of the evidence review of climate and malaria</td>
<td>Dr. Daniel Ngamije, Director, WHO Global Malaria Programme</td>
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<td>7:45 AM - 7:55 AM</td>
<td>Country Experience: Perspectives on Mozambique malaria experiences after Cyclone Idai</td>
<td>Dr. Baltazar Candrinho, Director, NMCP - Mozambique</td>
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<td>7:55 AM - 8:05 AM</td>
<td>Country Experience: Pakistan</td>
<td>Dr. Farah Qamar, Associate Professor and Consultant Pediatric Infectious Disease, Aga Khan University, Pakistan</td>
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<td>8:05 AM - 8:15 AM</td>
<td>Civil Society Experience: Highlighting community experiences and discussions in climate change and malaria</td>
<td>Olivia Ngou, Executive Director, Impact Santé Africa, Co-founder CS4ME (Civil Society for Malaria Elimination), Cameroon</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:15 AM - 8:25 AM</td>
<td>Climate Modeling and Malaria: Climate modeling to predict future malaria outbreaks: Experiences in India and Indonesia</td>
<td>Kelly Willis, Forecasting Healthy Futures</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:25 AM - 8:45 AM</td>
<td>Moderated Q&amp;Q, Wrap-Up</td>
<td>Sarthak Das, CEO, APLMA</td>
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Recent publications from the Unitaid-funded CARAMAL project brought into sharp focus that the effectiveness of malaria control and elimination tools is dependent on the strength and quality of the health care systems through which they are delivered. Access to diagnosis and treatment of malaria, and the prevention of malaria in pregnancy depends on the availability and quality of routine health services at community, facility, and referral levels, but the quality of those services is often lacking in malaria-affected countries. PMI has prioritized support to countries to improve the quality of health services for malaria for more than 15 years. PMI’s support has resulted in the development and implementation of effective quality improvement programs at community, facility, and referral levels, including the Outreach Training and Supportive Supervision (OTSS) quality improvement package that has been implemented in more than 15 countries. These innovative quality improvement programs have been tested, refined, and expanded over more than a decade.

This symposium will:

1. Outline PMI’s approach to strengthening health systems and improving the quality of health services
2. Present the findings of an independent evaluation of these quality improvement approaches in multiple countries
3. Share country examples and lessons learned of successful quality improvement programs at community, facility, and referral levels

While malaria-affected countries and their partners have been successful in reaching high coverage of multiple preventive interventions (including ITNs, IRS, and SMC) when delivered through campaigns, coverage of malaria interventions delivered through routine health services has lagged, often failing to leverage malaria-specific support for strengthening service delivery and stalling progress towards malaria control and elimination. The targets set out by malaria affected countries and WHO’s Global Technical Strategy will not be achieved until the health systems of malaria-affected countries deliver high quality healthcare services. Approaches that improve the quality of these services in malaria-affected countries, such as OTSS, have been developed and refined in multiple countries over more than a decade with the support of PMI, with a growing body of evidence on their effectiveness, including an independent evaluation of OTSS the results of which are featured in the upcoming Special Supplement. National malaria programs and their partners, as well as other disease control programs, can benefit from the lessons learned from these effective quality improvement programs that could be replicated in their countries.

(Continued…)

Crystal Ballroom A - Lobby Level (West Tower)
Friday, October 20, 7 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
Co-Chairs
Meera Venkatesan  
*PMI/USAID, Washington, DC, United States*

Patrick Kachur  
*Columbia University, New York, NY, United States*

Overview of the PMI Impact Malaria project’s quality improvement model  
Dr. Lawrence Barat  
*PMI Impact Malaria Project, Washington, DC, United States*

Can outreach, training and supportive supervision (OTSS) improve competency in malaria diagnostic testing and clinical case management? An evaluation of OTSS+ in Cameroon, Ghana, Niger, and Zambia  
Carolina Vanderick  
*Managing Director, Tropical Health LLP, London, United Kingdom*

How OTSS influences health facilities’ readiness and health care workers competency to prevent and treat malaria in Niger  
Dr. Daniel Koko  
*PMI Impact Malaria Project, Niamey, Niger*

Champions Program: improving management of severe malaria in Cameroon  
Dr. Germaine Ekoyol  
*National Malaria Control Program, Yaounde, Cameroon*

Panel Discussion and Q&A on experiences with Quality Improvement in malaria-affected countries with session presenters and National Malaria Program representatives
This interactive, 90-minute panel discussion-based symposium will cover multiple aspects of Chikungunya virus (CHIKV) transmission and mosquito distribution with a focus on the impact of climate change on the reservoir, entomology and unpredictability of outbreaks and inability prevent endemcity and imported cases in travelers. The symposium will raise physician awareness with 2 patient case studies assessing the difficulties in diagnosis and management and the symposium will conclude with outlining the need for a CHIKV vaccine, the types of vaccines in development and latest vaccine clinical trial data.

Lin H. Chen, Associate Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, United States
Lecturer, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Director, Mount Auburn Travel Medicine Center
Division of Infectious Diseases and Travel Medicine, Mount Auburn Hospital
Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States
Chair of the Development and Planning Committee and Industry Liaison, International Society of Travel Medicine
Alpharetta, Georgia, United States

Davidson H. Hamer, Professor of Global Health and Medicine
Boston University School of Public Health
Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine
Director, Boston Medical Center Travel Clinic
Boston, Massachusetts, United States

Rogelio López-Vélez, MD, PhD, DTM&H
Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Clinical Management of Leishmaniasis
Ramón y Cajal Institute for Health Research (IRyCIS)
Ramón y Cajal University Hospital.
Madrid, Spain

continued...
Francesca F. Norman, MBBS, FISTM  
National Referral Unit for Tropical Diseases, Infectious Diseases Department  
Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red de Enfermedades Infecciosas (CIBERINFEC)  
Ramón y Cajal Hospital  
Madrid, Spain  

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<td>7:15 AM</td>
<td>Welcome and Introduction</td>
<td>Lin H. Chen</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:20 AM</td>
<td>Entomology, Transmission, Mosquito Distribution, and Travel-Related Epidemiology and Risk</td>
<td>Davidson H. Hamer</td>
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<td>7:45 AM</td>
<td>Challenges With Diagnosis, Clinical Presentation, and Management</td>
<td>Francesca F. Norman</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:55 AM</td>
<td>Panel Discussion: Traveler Patient Cases</td>
<td>Lin H. Chen, Davidson H. Hamer, Rogelio López-Vélez, Francesca F. Norman</td>
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<td>8:05 AM</td>
<td>Chikungunya Vaccines: Where Are We Now?</td>
<td>Rogelio López-Vélez</td>
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<td>8:15 AM</td>
<td>Panel Discussion: Who Should Be Vaccinated, Prioritization, Outbreaks, and Overcoming Vaccines Hesitation</td>
<td>Lin H. Chen, Davidson H. Hamer, Rogelio López-Vélez, Francesca F. Norman</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>Lin H. Chen</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:35 AM</td>
<td>Q and A</td>
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PfHRP2/3 Deletion: A Call to Action

Crystal Ballroom A (Lobby Level – West Tower)  
Friday, October 20, 6:15 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Most malaria rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) are ineffective in detecting hrp2/3 negative P. falciparum parasites. In recent years, the presence of this parasite has continued to grow in an increasing number of countries where costly ongoing monitoring efforts are required. New diagnostic solutions capable of identifying all P. falciparum parasites, regardless of gene deletion, is a recognized priority. Join us as a panel of experts will discuss the scope and significance of this threat, solutions to best address it, and the performance new technology can deliver.

Using Analytical Sensitivity Data To Anticipate Clinical Sensitivity For Malaria Rdt
Allison Golden
Scientific Program Officer, PATH, Seattle, Washington, United States

Surmounting Global Challenges Of Hrp2/3 Gene Deletion In Malaria Diagnostics: The Role Of Find Partnerships
Ewurama Owusu
Scientist, FIND, Geneva, Switzerland

Clinical Performance Of An Investigational Rdt In Ethiopia
Xavier Ding
Clinical Strategy Manager, Infectious Disease Emerging Markets, Abbott, Baar, Switzerland
Dengue is the most prevalent arboviral disease in human beings, with 3.6 billion people living in areas with risk of disease transmission, and with an estimated 390 million dengue infections and ~100 million dengue cases annually. There are currently no approved antivirals available to treat dengue, and preventative vaccines available do not offer protection against all serotypes. The only treatment against dengue is the preventive and supportive care. There is a strong need for integrated management of Dengue that includes preventive and therapeutic approaches to halt spread of this devastating disease.

6:15 PM – 6:20 PM
Opening and Introduction
Tine De Marez
*Compound Development Team Leader – Dengue, Titusville, NJ, United States*

6:20 PM – 7:00 PM
Promises and Challenges with Dengue Vaccines
Anna P. Durbin
*Professor, International Health and Director, Center for Immunization Research*
*Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD, United States*

JNJ-1802 for Pre-exposure Prophylaxis of Dengue
Anna P. Durbin
*Professor, International Health and Director, Center for Immunization Research*
*Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD, United States*

7:00 PM – 7:20 PM
Perspectives of populations benefiting from an antiviral to prevent dengue
Aaron Farmer
*Director, Chief of Virology, Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences, Bangkok, Thailand*

7:20 PM – 7:40 PM
Deployment of antivirals as a tool for outbreak control in endemic communities
Serge Masyn
*Director Data Sciences, Janssen R&D, Beerse, Belgium*

7:40 PM – 8:00 PM
Moderated Q&A
Tine De Marez
*Compound Development Team Leader – Dengue, Titusville, NJ, United States*