**Module Specification**

## GENERAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module name</th>
<th>Malaria</th>
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<tr>
<td>Module code</td>
<td>IDM503</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module Organiser(s)</td>
<td>Dr Cally Roper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contact email</td>
<td>The LSHTM distance learning programmes and modules are run in collaboration with the University of London. Enquiries may be made via their Student Advice Centre at: <a href="https://london.ac.uk/contact-us">https://london.ac.uk/contact-us</a> (Enquiries from face-to-face i.e. London-based LSHTM MSc or research students regarding study of DL modules should be emailed to <a href="mailto:distance@lshtm.ac.uk">distance@lshtm.ac.uk</a>.)</td>
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| Home Faculty | Faculty of Infectious & Tropical Diseases  
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine [https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/faculties/itd/](https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/faculties/itd/) |
| Level | This module is at Level 7 (postgraduate Masters 'M' level) of the QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales & Northern Ireland (FHEQ) |
| Credit | LSHTM award 15 credits on successful completion of this module |
| Accreditation | Not currently accredited by any other body |
| Keywords | Malaria parasites, vectors, disease (immunity, pathogenesis, host-parasite association), epidemiology, treatment (drugs, vaccines), Laboratory and field diagnosis. |

## AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND AUDIENCE

### Overall aim

This module aims to give students an introduction to parasites and their vectors, malaria as a disease, how it can be controlled and the factors that make it so difficult to control. Students will learn about the successes that have been achieved and those that are likely in future. There is much that we still do not know about the malaria parasites, their vectors and the disease itself and each year, malaria research adds to the scientific and medical literature. We hope that this module will give you enough information to allow you to understand the literature on the subject and to assess it critically.

### Intended learning outcomes

By the end of this module, students should be able to:

- describe the malaria parasites and their vectors, and malaria as a disease,
- explain how malaria can be controlled using interventions that target the vector or the parasite, and the factors that make malaria difficult to control.
- understand the acquisition of anti-malarial immunity and the immunopathogenesis of the disease.
**Target audience**

This module is aimed at health professionals and scientists intending to gain a broader understanding of malaria, why it remains one of the more intractable diseases in the world, and importantly, to help in meeting the immense challenges posed by the disease.

**CONTENT**

**Session content**

The module includes sections addressing the following topics:

**Section 1 Malaria: parasites and vectors**

The first Section is an introduction to the subject of malaria with the emphasis on the biology of the parasites and their vectors. The sessions include all the basic information you are likely to require about the parasites themselves and their mosquito vectors.

**Section 2 Malaria: the disease**

The second Section focuses on malaria as a disease and also covers the immunology of infection and the genetics of the parasites, hosts and vectors.

**Section 3 Malaria: epidemiology and control**

The third Section is mainly concerned with the epidemiology and control of malaria.

**Section 4 Malaria: treatment**

The fourth Section covers four specific topics, the biochemistry of the disease, malaria vaccines, malaria in pregnancy and imported malaria.

**TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT**

**Study resources provided or required**

The following materials are provided to students after registration for this module once a year in September:

- **Study Guide:** Interactive CD-ROM
- **Reader:** Reprints of associated journal articles.
- **Textbooks:**

In addition to the materials above, students are given access to the LSHTM Virtual Learning Environment, Moodle (for web-based discussion forums etc.) and the LSHTM online library resources.

Audio-recordings of on-campus lectures are not available for this module.

**Teaching and learning methods**

Learning is self-directed against a detailed set of learning objectives using the materials provided. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the module-specific discussion forums available on Moodle to obtain tutor support, and to make use of LSHTM online library resources. In addition, written feedback is provided on submitted assignments.

**Assessment details**

Formal assessment of this module includes a two-hour unseen written paper examination with 15 minutes’ additional reading/planning time (70%) and an assessed assignment comprising a 2500 word report on vaccination for malaria control and eradication (30%).

If students fail the module overall, they are allowed one further attempt at the failed element (examination and/or assignment).
**Assessment dates**
Assignments for this module can be submitted only once annually, no later than 31st March and must be submitted via the online Assignment Management System.

Unseen written examinations for DL modules are held once a year, in June (including resits).

Examinations are normally held in a student’s country of residence, in one of over 650 examination centres worldwide. They are arranged mainly through Ministries of Education or the British Council. A list of examination centres can be found at [https://london.ac.uk/current-students/examinations/examination-centres](https://london.ac.uk/current-students/examinations/examination-centres)

A local fee will be payable direct to the examination centre. This fee is in addition to the programme/module fee and is set by, and paid directly to, the individual examination centres. The level of local examination centre fees varies across the world and neither the University of London nor the LSHTM have any control over the fee amount.

**Language of study and assessment**
English (please see ‘English language requirements’ below regarding the standard required for entry).

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**TIMING AND MODE OF STUDY**

**Duration**
Distance learning module studies begin in early October. Students may start their studies at any time from receipt of study materials and work through the material until the start of the June examinations (although assessment submission deadlines which are earlier than this must be observed).

**Dates**
Tutorial support for distance learning modules is available from the beginning of October through to the end of May.

**Mode of Study**
By distance learning.

**Learning time**
The notional learning time for the module totals 150 hours, consisting of:
- Directed self-study (reading and working through the provided module material) ≈ 100 hours
- Self-directed learning (general reading around the subject, library, Moodle discussion forums) ≈ 25 hours
- Assessment, review and revision ≈ 25 hours

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**APPLICATION, ADMISSION AND FEES**

**Pre-requisites**
Those who wish to study this module as an individual module or as part of another programme should have a prior knowledge of basic biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, immunology and parasitology in order to be able to work through and benefit fully from this module.

Those wishing to study this module must have regular access to the internet to participate in module-specific discussions on Moodle, benefit from online library facilities and submit assignments.

**English language requirements**
A strong command of the English language is necessary to benefit from studying the module. Applicants whose first language is not English or whose prior university studies have not been conducted wholly in English must fulfil LSHTM’s English language requirements, with an acceptable score in an approved test taken in the two years prior to entry. Applicants may be asked to take a test even if the standard conditions have been met.
Student numbers
There is no cap on the number of students who can register for this distance learning module. The number of students actively studying this module varies, but typically approx. 70 students register for the module per year.

Student selection
This module is available to be studied by students on the following distance learning programmes:
MSc or PG Dip Infectious Diseases (ID), Clinical Trials (CT), Global Health Policy (GHP), Public Health (PH) or MSc Epidemiology (EP).
Alternatively, students may register for this as an “individual module”.
This module is also open to students registered on LSHTM face-to-face (i.e. London-based) MSc programmes (subject to programme-specific limitations) and research degree students.

Fees
For the current schedule of fees click on the LSHTM course link.

Scholarships
Scholarships are not available for individual modules. Some potential sources of funding are detailed on the LSHTM website.

Admission deadlines
Applications for LSHTM distance learning programmes and modules are managed by the University of London. To apply to take either a formal award (i.e. PG Certificate, PG Diploma or MSc) or an individual module, click the relevant link on the right hand side of the page at https://london.ac.uk/courses/infectious-diseases
Key deadlines are as follows:
- Application deadline: 31 August each year
- Registration deadline (new students and those registering for the project module, IDM600): 30 September each year
- Registration deadline (continuing students, with the exception of those registering for the project module IDM600, and those taking individual modules): 31 October.

Please note: The academic year starts 1 October. Students who register after 1 October should note that module welcome and Collaborate sessions held in October are recorded, but they cannot request an extension to assignment submission deadlines or apply for an examination extenuating circumstance as a result of registering later than 1 October.
(LSHTM research students wishing to study this module should note information given in the mixed mode study option document.

ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT
This module specification applies for the academic year 2019/20.
Last revised/approved by M. Bridge 5/02/19
Further revisions revised by
London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Keppel St., London WC1E 7HT. www.lshtm.ac.uk