

Largest-ever IPD meta-analysis of malaria patients to inform haemoglobin changes

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A new malaria study using a very large analysis of pooled individual patient data (IPD) from more than 70,000 patients of all ages, has been published today in *BMC Medicine*. Artemisinin-based combination

therapy is the first-line antimalarial treatment for uncomplicated falciparum malaria in most endemic countries but can suppress the bone marrow response and also contribute to haemolysis.

This individual patient data pooled analysis quantifies the underlying hematological response following *P. falciparum* infection to better understand the comparative benefits and risks of different [antimalarial](#) treatments. The paper involved data from 70,226 patients, from 200 studies conducted between 1991 and 2013, with 72.4% enrolled in Africa, 26.3% in Asia and 1.3% in South America.

The [paper](#) determined the main factors associated with hematological fall and recovery following uncomplicated malaria and its [treatment](#). The study highlights patients at greatest risk of severe anemia who would warrant closer follow up and also whether some treatment regimens offer advantages over others with regard to fast recovery and prevention of anemia.

WWARN researchers highlighted five main findings:

- A hemoglobin of

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