

Maryland reports case of locally acquired malaria

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There has been another case of locally acquired malaria in the United

States, this time in Maryland, authorities report.

This case is the first locally acquired case—not related to travel—in Maryland in more than 40 years. Seven locally acquired infections in Florida and one in Texas have all been reported since May, but no evidence suggests the cases in these two states are related, according to the [CDC](#). Health officials said the Maryland patient had not traveled to those two states.

"We are taking this very seriously and will work with local and federal [health officials](#) to investigate this case," Maryland Health Department Secretary Laura Herrera Scott said in a [statement](#).

The state health department said the patient, who is hospitalized and recovering, has not traveled outside the United States recently. The patient had gone to the hospital with symptoms including fever and sweating, said David Blythe, M.D., director of the health department's infectious disease division, *NBC News* reported. A mosquito may have acquired malaria from a person who had acquired it while traveling and then spread it via a bite to the Maryland patient, Blythe theorized.

Malaria, a mosquito-borne illness, is rare in the United States and was considered eliminated nationally by 1951. Death from the disease can typically be prevented with treatment, the CDC said. Nearly all of the more than 2,000 [malaria](#) cases reported annually in the United States are acquired by travelers overseas.

More information: [NBC News Article](#)

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