

***Assessment of therapeutic efficacy and safety of Larimal Fixed Dose
for treatment of uncomplicated falciparum malaria in Myanmar***

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Malaria is the top priority health problem in Myanmar and *Plasmodium falciparum* accounts for 70-75% of total malaria patients. Artemisinin Based Combination Therapy (ACT) has been recommended as the standard regime for treatment of uncomplicated falciparum in Myanmar since September 2002. A study was done to assess efficacy and safety of Larimal Fixed Dose (each tablet contains artesunate 100 mg & amodiaquine 300 mg) combination, the new product of Ipca Laboratories Limited, India in treatment of falciparum malaria. It was conducted in villages of Pyin Oo Lwin and Naung Cho townships during October to December 2007 according to the standard guidelines of WHO for monitoring of drug resistant malaria (28 days test). Blood was taken from finger tips of clinically suspected malaria patients and malaria microscopy was done for species and parasite count determination. *P.falciparum* positive patients were given Larimal tablet, as artesunate 4 mg / Kg Body Weight / day for 3 consecutive days. Follow up of patients was done on days 2,3,7,14,21 and 28 days. Out of 70 patients enrolled in the study all were completed the 28 days follow-up, having Adequate Clinical and Parasitological Response ACPR in 68 patients (97.1 %) and Late Treatment Failure LPF in 2 patients (2.9 %). Minor side effects of nausea, vomiting and giddiness were observed only in 2 patients on the first day. The study showed that Larimal Fixed Dose is really effective, quite safe and good compliance ACT for treatment of uncomplicated falciparum in Myanmar.

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