

Assessment of therapeutic efficacy of chloroquine for treatment of vivax malaria in sentinel sites of Myanmar (2007)

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Abstract

Malaria is one of the top priority health problems in Myanmar and *Plasmodium vivax* accounts for 20-25% of total malaria patients. Although chloroquine is recommended as the drug of choice for treatment of vivax malaria, it still needs to assess its therapeutic efficacy. A study was done in villages of Northern Shan State (Lashio and Naung Cho townships) and Mandalay Division (Tabeik Kyin and PaThein Gyi townships) during 2006 June to 2007 July to assess therapeutic efficacy of chloroquine 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 identification and parasite count determination. *P.vivax* positive patients were given chloroquine 10 mg, 10 mg and 5 mg per Kg body weight on Days 0, 1 and 2 respectively. Follow up of patients was done on days 2,3,7,14,21 and 28 days. In Northern Shan State out of (1058) patients examined, (72) patients were *P. vivax* positive and (63) patients completed the study. In Mandalay Division out of (640) patients examined, (63) patients were *P.vivax* positive and (61) completed the study. Adequate Clinical and Parasitological Response ACPR was 95.2 % (60/63) and 96.7% (59/61) in Northern Shan State and Mandalay Division respectively. No significant difference was found between the two areas. (P value 0.12). The study showed that chloroquine is really effective and should be recommended for treatment of vivax malaria in Myanmar.