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Control Strategies to Counter Malaria Transmission: Facing Future Challenges for Global Health

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Message from the Guest Editor

The number of malaria deaths has been declining, but the disease still claimed over 400,000 lives, of which an estimated 67% were of children under the age 5 years, per 2019 WHO malaria report, disproportionately affecting sub-Saharan Africa. Additionally, an estimated 229 million cases worldwide were reported, a slight increase from the 228 million cases reported in 2018. Thus, control measures aimed at reducing disease burden and morbidity, with a long-term goal aiming towards potential eradication, require strategies that embody a holistic look at disease transmission dynamics, accounting for (i) mosquito (agent that transmits the disease from one human to another) behavioral and physiological patterns and the factors essential for a successful human–mosquito interaction and mosquito survival; (ii) the parasite dynamics taking into account factors that enable their success in both humans and mosquitoes and their ability to evade the human immune response; (iii) the human behavioral dynamics and actions that can either enhance and/or enable or inhibit a successful transmission and hence control.



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