

# Malaria in Focus

*From research to global action*

12-13 June 2025, Kreuzstrasse 2, 4123 Allschwil, Switzerland

## PROGRAMME

### Thursday, 12 June 2025

**08:30 On-site Registration** (8:55 virtual check-in)

#### Biology and Immunology

*Moderators, Christof Grüning and Angela Hellingman, Swiss TPH*

**09:00 Welcome and Setting the Stage, Manuel Hetzel, Swiss TPH**

**09:10 Mosquito Transmitted Blood Stage Attenuated Malaria Parasites as Experimental Vaccines, Freddy Frischknecht, University of Heidelberg, Germany**

**09:35 SLI Ways to Study the Major Virulence Factor of *Plasmodium falciparum*, Tobias Spielmann, Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine, Germany**

**10:00 Function and Potential of the Cysteine-Rich Protective Antigen as Vaccine Component, Gerd Pluschke, Swiss TPH**

**10:20 Coffee Break** (20 minutes)

**10:40 A Universal Malaria Vaccine Based on CD8+ T Lymphocytes, Caroline Junqueira, Institute for Research in Biomedicine, Switzerland**

**11:05 A Novel Subset of  $\gamma\delta$  T Cells in Malaria Pre-Exposed Populations, Mathias Schmalzer, Swiss TPH**

**11:25 Targeting Mosquito-Parasite Interactions to Limit Malaria Transmission, Stephanie Blandin, University of Strasbourg, France**

**11:50 New Viability Reporter Lines for Basic Research on Gametocyte Biology and Transmission-Blocking Drug Discovery, Nicolas Brancucci, Swiss TPH**

**12:10 Swiss TPH Speed Talks**

1. **Mode of Drug Action, Patricia Bravo**
2. **Research on Malaria Parasites, Beatriz Graca**
3. **Boosting Impact: Fast-Tracking Capacity Strengthening for Malaria Elimination, Christian Selinger**
4. **Environmental, Social, Economic and Health Impact Assessment for the use of Genetically Modified Mosquitoes for Malaria Control, Astrid Knoblauch**
5. **Latent Malaria Infections Among Pregnant Women in Rural Cote d'Ivoire: Evidence from the Taabo MGC Project, Günther Fink**

**12:40 Lunch** (75 minutes)

#### Research and Development

*Cristina Donini, Medicines for Malaria Venture, Switzerland*

**13:55 Next Generation Antimalarial Combination Approaches to Address Resistance Challenges, Caroline Boulton, Novartis, Switzerland**

**14:20 Advanced Malaria Drug Discovery Models, Pascal Mäser, Swiss TPH**

**14:40 The Global Malaria Vaccine R&D Landscape – What's Next? Nicola Viebig, European Vaccine Initiative, Germany**

**15:05 Evolving Malaria Vaccine Landscape: Opportunities for Multistage Vaccines, Ally Olotu, Ifakara Health Institute, Tanzania**

**15:30 Coffee Break** (25 minutes)

**15:55 The First Step in the Clinical Journey: Matching Need with Innovation in Diagnostics, Kevin Tetteh, Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics, Switzerland**

- 16:20 **Assessment of uRDTs for Reactive Active Case Detection in Rwanda**, *Sara Cantoreggi, Swiss TPH*
- 16:40 **Supporting Innovation to Enhance the Impact of Malaria Vector Control**, *Justin McBeath, Innovative Vector Control Consortium, UK*
- 17:00 **Making the Most of the Vector Control Toolbox**, *Sarah Moore, Swiss TPH*
- 17:20 **Words from the Director**, *Jürg Utzinger, Swiss TPH*
- 17:30 **Reception in Belo Café**

## Friday, 13 June 2025

08:40 **On-site Registration** (8:55 virtual check-in)

### Epidemiology and Modelling

*Moderator, Emilie Pothin, Swiss TPH*

- 09:00 **Welcome and Setting the Stage**, *Nakul Chitnis, Swiss TPH*
- 09:10 **Convergence of Malaria Biological Threats in the Horn of Africa**, *Fitsum Tadesse, Armauer Hansen Research Institute, Ethiopia*
- 09:35 **Supporting Malaria Elimination with Genomic Surveillance**, *Olivo Miotto, Mahidol-Oxford Research Unit, Mahidol University, Bangkok*
- 10:00 **Modelling the Impact of Climate on Malaria Transmission**, *Penelope Vounatsou, Swiss TPH*
- 10:20 **Coffee Break** (30 minutes)
- 10:50 **Climate Variability Facilitates Intervention against Urban Malaria**, *Mercedes Pascual, New York University, USA*
- 11:15 **Novel Vector Control Interventions**, *Nakul Chitnis, Swiss TPH*
- 11:35 **Strengthening Geospatial Malaria Modelling Capacities through the MAP Dar Node**, *Punam Amratia, Ifakara Health Institute, Tanzania*
- 12:00 **Anticipating Malaria Needs: A Global Framework for Accurate Forecasting of Intervention Impact**, *Monica Golumbeanu, Swiss TPH*
- 12:20 **Lunch** (75 minutes)

### Implementation Research and Partnerships

*Moderator, Aita Signorelli, Swiss TPH*

- 13:35 **A Different Way of Looking at Malaria: Innovation in Malaria Research**, *Quique Bassat, IS Global, Spain*
- 14:00 **Malaria Research and Partnerships in Papua New Guinea**, *Maria Ome-Kaius, Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research (virtual)*
- 14:25 **Harnessing the Power of Academia to Support Malaria Control Programmes**, *Christian Lengeler, Swiss TPH*
- 14:45 **Coffee Break** (30 minutes)
- 15:15 **Panel Discussion with Q&A: Global Partnerships for Malaria Control and Elimination**
- *Abdisalan Noor, Harvard, USA (moderator)*
  - *Michael Adekunle Charles, RBM Partnership to End Malaria, Switzerland*
  - *Ally Olotu, Ifakara Health Institute, Tanzania*
  - *Manuel Hetzel, Swiss TPH*
  - *Jan Kolaczinski, Unitaid*
- 16:05 **Closing Words**, *Jürg Utzinger, Swiss TPH*
- 16:15 **End of Event**