Objective

Recent advances in G6PD deficiency screening and treatment are rapidly changing the landscape of radical cure of vivax malaria available for National Malaria Programs (NMP). While NMPs await the WHO’s global policy guidance on these advances, they will also need to consider different contextual factors related to the vivax burden, health system capacity, and resources available to support changes to their policies and practices.

Ethical Approval

Human Research Ethics Committee approval has been received from the Northern Territory, Department of Health, and Menzies School of Health Research (HREC Reference Number: 2022-4245).

The OAT will be made available for the NMPs, introduced at the APMEN Vivax Working Group annual meeting, and reported in international journals.

Methodology

The aim of this project is to develop an Options Assessment Toolkit (OAT) that enables NMPs to systematically determine optimal radical cure options for their given environments and potentially reduce decision-making delays.

The OAT will be made available for the NMPs, introduced at the APMEN Vivax Working Group annual meeting, and reported in international journals.

OAT Elements

The different elements of the OAT have been developed:
1. Baseline Assessment Template
2. Scenarios representing Asia Pacific countries
3. Scenario-based G6PD test and radical cure treatment options
4. Considerations for policy change and approaches to implement Test and Treat combinations
5. Evidence decks on radical cure options
6. Step by step guide on using the OAT

In conclusion, this poster outlines the process of OAT development to inform relevant stakeholders and assist other researchers developing similar toolkit/s in other settings for malaria or for other diseases.

Our study design and participatory research methods provide the necessary scientific rigor that is often lacking in toolkit development, and adds value for the policy makers and malaria program managers through consultative dialogue and coproduction of insights.