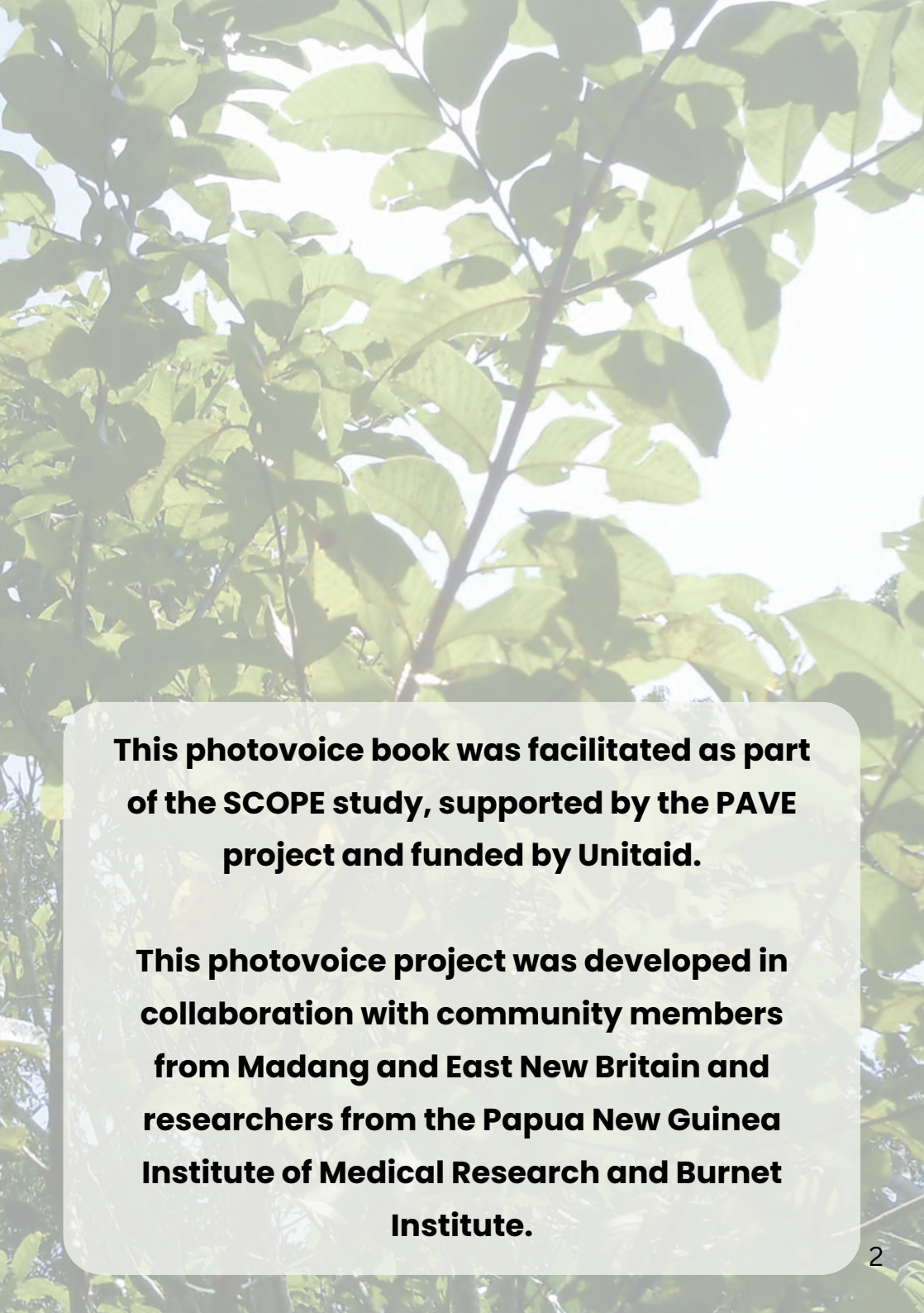


# Through our eyes: Stories of life with *P. vivax* malaria in Papua New Guinea

COMMUNITY STORIES OF VIVAX MALARIA CARE, TREATMENT AND RESILIENCE FOR PNG





**This photovoice book was facilitated as part of the SCOPE study, supported by the PAVE project and funded by Unitaid.**

**This photovoice project was developed in collaboration with community members from Madang and East New Britain and researchers from the Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research and Burnet Institute.**



Through our eyes: Stories of life with  
*P. vivax* malaria in Papua New Guinea

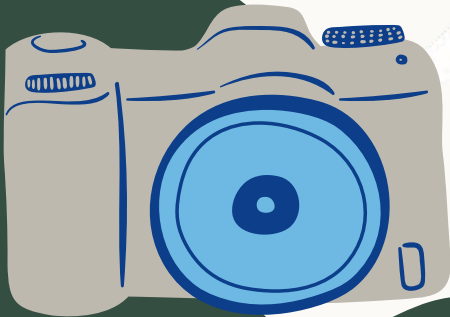




***Plasmodium vivax* (*P. vivax*)** malaria is a major health problem in Papua New Guinea. To improve how *P. vivax* malaria is treated, the Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research worked together with the National Department of Health, Provincial Health Authorities, the Burnet Institute, and four local health facilities. This work was carried out through the PAVE Project – the Partnership for Vivax Elimination.

### **What this book is about:**

This book shares the stories and experiences of community members who took part in a new way of treating *P. vivax* malaria. Through photos and personal reflections, participants show what it was like to receive care, take treatment, and be supported by health workers and volunteers in their community.



# THE REVISED CASE MANAGEMENT APPROACH INCLUDED:

Blood testing before treatment to check for G6PD deficiency, helping health workers choose safe medicine

**1**

A shorter, higher-dose course of primaquine for people with normal G6PD levels

**2**

Clearer counselling so patients understand their treatment and feel supported

**3**

A follow-up visit in the community on day 3 of treatment by a trained health volunteer

**4**

# A MESSAGE OF THANKS

## **From PNGIMR and Burnet Institute Researchers:**

*This book shares the voices  
of community members  
who generously gave their  
time, trust, and stories.  
Through photographs and  
words, they show us what it  
is like to live with vivax  
malaria and to experience  
new ways of receiving care.*



*As researchers and  
partners, our role was to  
listen, learn, and support  
these stories. We are  
grateful to the individuals,  
families, and communities  
who allowed us to walk  
alongside them. We hope  
this book honours their  
experiences and  
contributes to healthier  
futures for all Papua New  
Guineans.*





## **From Madang Provincial Health Authority**

*On behalf of Madang Provincial Health Authority, we formally acknowledge and commend the PAVE Studies team for the development of this important publication capturing the testimonies of participants involved in the primaquine and G6PD research.*

*This document reflects more than scientific inquiry; it preserves the lived experiences of individuals and communities who contributed to strengthening the treatment of Plasmodium vivax malaria in Papua New Guinea. By documenting patient journeys – including the role of health education, nutrition, and livelihood stability – the publication highlights the broader social and clinical dimensions of radical cure implementation.*

*Madang Province recognizes that the findings from the PAVE Studies have contributed significantly to advancing safer and more effective management of P. vivax malaria through evidence-based integration of G6PD testing and shorter-course primaquine therapy. The work has strengthened clinician confidence, improved adherence potential, and reinforced community understanding of malaria treatment.*

*We extend our sincere appreciation to the research participants, health workers, community volunteers, and partner institutions – including Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research, Burnet Institute, and the PNG National Malaria Control Program – for their collaboration, technical leadership, and commitment to malaria elimination efforts.*

*Madang Provincial Health Authority stands in support of this body of work and acknowledges its contribution to strengthening malaria case management, community engagement, and the broader goal of malaria elimination in Papua New Guinea. The testimonies captured in this publication serve as both evidence and inspiration for continued progress in improving health outcomes and community wellbeing.*

**Dr Jiuth Broadbent Gawi**  
**Director Curative Health Services**  
**Madang PHA**  
**Madang**





## From East New Britain Provincial Health Authority

*"Vivax malaria is endemic and will be here forever unless we conduct important research like this into improved therapeutic case management and combine our efforts to eliminate malaria"*

**Provincial Disease Control  
Officer, ENB PHA**



## From National Malaria and Vector Borne Disease Program

*"We can talk about malaria elimination but if we cannot deal with Vivax, elimination will not be possible"* - **Monitoring & Evaluation lead,**

**NMVBDP**



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*P. VIVAX* IN OUR  
EVERYDAY LIVES



# ABOUT VIVAX MALARIA

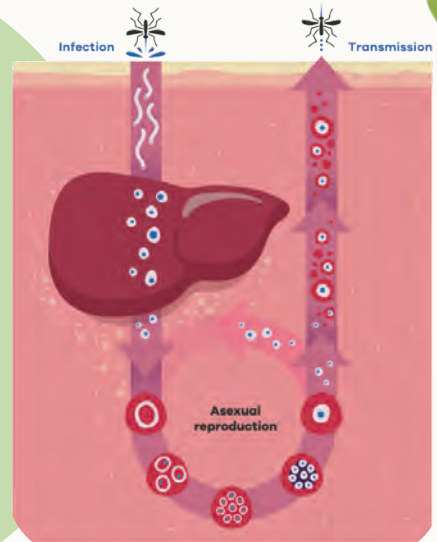


Vivax is a type of malaria that affects everyone, especially children.

Similar to the other kinds of malaria, the parasite that causes vivax malaria is transmitted by the female anopheles mosquitoes.



Unless properly treated, vivax malaria can cause repeated episodes of the illness, and can also cause other illness such as anaemia, generalized body weakness and even death.





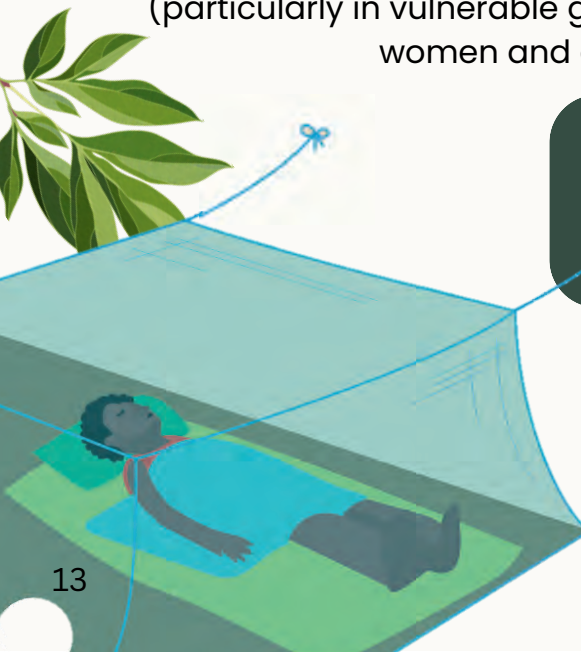
## WHAT DOES *P. VIVAX* FEEL LIKE?

Vivax malaria often makes people feel unwell more than once. Someone may recover, feel better for a while, and then become sick again. These repeated episodes can disrupt daily life – making it hard to work, care for family or attend school.

This happens because *P. vivax* can stay hidden in the body. This hidden liver stage of *P.vivax* can come out into the blood every now and then, causing repeated infection and illness.

When a person becomes sick, a mosquito can pick up the infection and pass it on to others in the community.

These repeated episodes of infection and illness can cause both acute and chronic health problems (particularly in vulnerable groups such as pregnant women and children).



### WHEN SHOULD I VISIT A HEALTHCARE WORKER?

The best way to protect you and your family is to sleep under a bed net and seek treatment from your nearest healthcare worker if you feel unwell.

# NOT HAPPY

“Eye red, heavy head, headache. When I feel sick, I look like this” – Sinclair, male, Madang



# SLEEPING SLEEPING

“When we went to our house in the garden, my son got this mat and slept on it. He could feel mosquitoes biting his legs while he was sleeping so I decided to take the picture” - Vinsensia, female, East New Britain



# NAPAPAR HEALTH CENTRE

“We are fortunate to have a health facility close to our community. When we get sick it’s easy for us to access the health services” – Clefson, male, East New Britain



# PATIENT

"I took this photo of my nephew when he was sick and preparing to go to Mugil Health Center. I want to emphasize the importance of clearly communicating your symptoms to healthcare workers so they can accurately identify and treat your illness. His mother wasn't with him, and I believe children need their mother's love and care, especially when they're sick. Seeing my nephew reminded me of how I quickly take my own kids to the health center when they're unwell. I wondered if his dad would take him to the health center or not." - Raymond, male, Madang





For many people, ***P. vivax*** returns again and again – interrupting work, school, family life, and rest. These stories show how malaria weaves itself into everyday life over time, shaping how people plan, cope, and care for one another.

By sharing these experiences, photographers remind us why addressing malaria continues to matter – not only because of illness, but because of its lasting impact on families and communities.



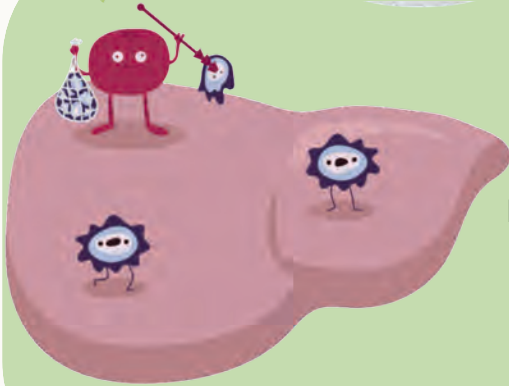
WHY *P. VIVAX*  
KEEPS COMING  
BACK



## HOW DOES *P. VIVAX* HIDE IN THE BODY?

Mala-1 is the medicine that treats the malaria parasites that are in the blood.

However, vivax malaria has a stage that can hide or sleep in the liver (called hypnozoites) for weeks, months and even years.



This hidden liver stage of *P.vivax* can come out into the blood every now and then causing repeated infection and illness.

When picked up by a mosquito, it passes on to another person causing them infection and illness.



## HOW DO I TREAT *P. VIVAX*?



These repeated episodes of infection and illness can cause both acute and chronic health problems.

Primaquine is the only medicine available in PNG and approved by the PNG National Department of Health, that removes the hidden malaria parasites from the liver.



To better protect people from repeated illness, primaquine treatment is focusing on clearing vivax malaria from the body, not just treating the sickness we feel today.

The photographers share their stories on a shorter course of primaquine medicine, combined with G6PD testing and counselling, to help people complete treatment safely and with support.

# TREATMENT

“I will encourage the people in the community to take primaquine treatment for 7 days because my son has taken it and now, he is fine, he does not have malaria anymore” - Doris, female, Madang



# MALARIA DOSE

“These are some examples of medicine packets that we received along with the medicine from the primaquine team’s [research clinical team] activities...While you are taking the medicine, you must eat because you might get side effects. When you take the medicine yourself, you must take the medicine exactly according to your illness” - Derick, male, Madang



# HEALTHY CHILD

“This is my grandson. He was on the revised treatment package. He has completed his treatment and is doing well. He did not experience any side effects to the medicine” - Steven, male, East New Britain



# WHAT FAMILIES ALREADY DO TO PREVENT MALARIA



# BREEDING SITE FOR MOSQUITOES

“These tires they are full of water and there are mosquitoes in there. It’s right at the back of my house, these tires, and they were supposed to, my elder son, requested tires to build a new pit toilet for me, but he hasn’t started work with them and they are still sitting here, filling up with water, breeding mosquitoes. This is another way of mosquitoes multiplying in our areas and biting us. I’m still telling them to find another shed to keep the tires” - Mary, female, Madang



# MADEG

“This is where we go to get sago. There are lots of mosquitoes here, snakes and other insects too. Sometimes when I bring the children here, they get sick. My son was bitten by a snake here. When I stay till the afternoon, I see many mosquitoes here” - John, male, Madang



# COCONUT SHELLS

“Seeing this photo reminds me that sometimes we forget to put these coconut shells in the right place after they've been used and leave them like that in the open. This can be a breeding site for mosquitoes when it's filled with rainwater, and because of that we can get bitten by mosquitoes and become infected with malaria” - Doris, female, Madang



# BREEDING PLACE

“This image is a breeding place for mosquitoes. When empty tins are thrown around and not disposed off properly, they become a breeding area for mosquitoes” - Derick, male, Madang



# WATER STORAGE

"I took this photo after arguing with my mother. They bought her a water tank, but she still uses the open water from the empty fridge. This is not safe because it can breed mosquitoes. It's better to discard or remove the empty fridge to prevent mosquito breeding" - Raymond, male, Madang



## WHAT THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' STORIES TEACH US

The photos show how mosquitoes find places to live close to our homes.



Rubbish left near the houses and water that is not covered can become breeding places for mosquitoes.



Covering water containers, using drums properly, cutting grass and keeping the area around the house clean - can help reduce mosquitoes and protect our families.



# UNHYGIENIC ENVIRONMENT

“Living and eating with animals (especially pigs) at home is unhygienic and can affect health. When these animals live under the house, they make muddy places, which then can create breeding sites for mosquitoes as well. This makes us to get infected with malaria every time” - John, male, Madang



# PIG FENCING

“If people don’t build fencing for pigs and let them live outside their yard, the pigs can create breeding sites for mosquitoes and people can get sick with malaria. If we build fencing for pigs like this, it will help prevent us from malaria”  
- Steven, male, East New Britain



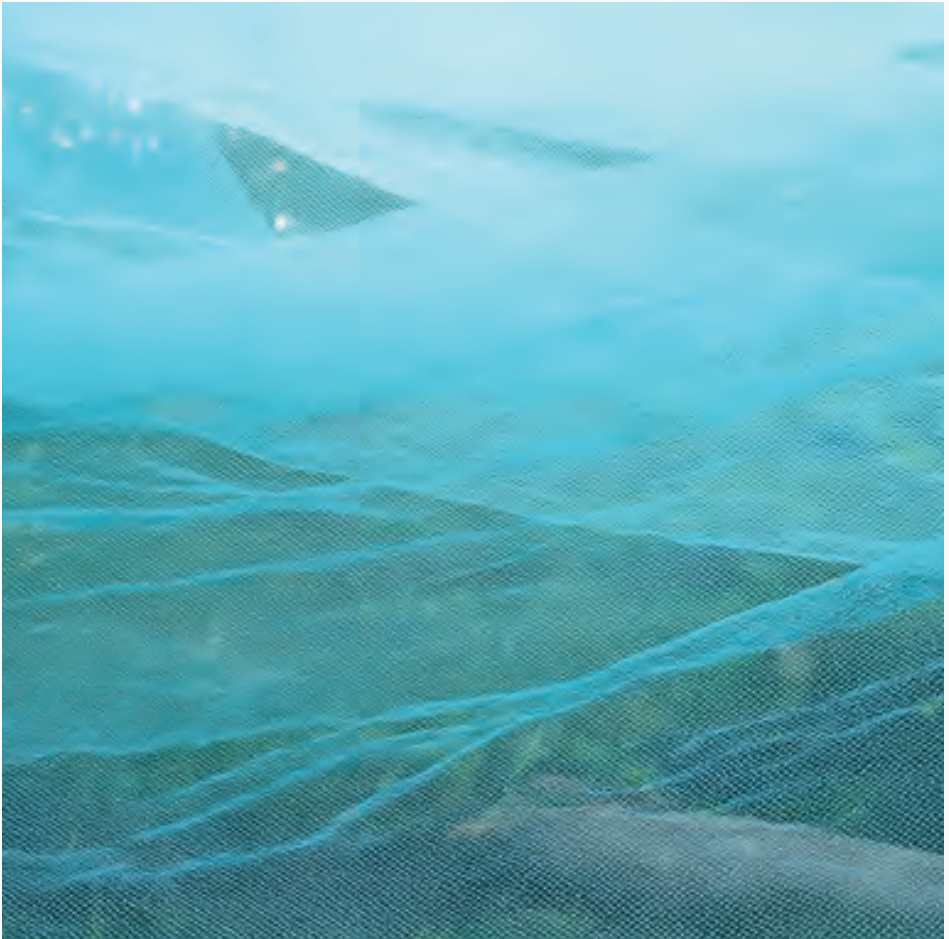
# WINDOW SCREEN

“In my community, most people don’t have window screen on their house, that’s why mosquitoes enter their house, bite them and make them sick. If people put window screen on their house, I believe it will prevent them from getting malaria sickness” - Clefson, male, East New Britain



# MOSQUITO NET

“When sleeping in treated mosquito nets, I don’t get infected with malaria. When sleep within mosquito nets that are not treated, I used to get malaria” - Clefson, male, East New Britain



# SLEEP WITHOUT BED NETS

"In my house we don't have enough mosquito nets, so we let our children sleep in mosquito nets while we adults sleep without mosquito nets" - Steven, male, East New Britain



## WHAT THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' STORIES TEACH US

Our living environments affect malaria risk. Mosquitoes enter houses without window screens and breed in muddy areas around homes, including where animals are kept.



The photographers remind us that protecting our families often starts at home. Sleeping under a bed net each night is a powerful way to prevent malaria and keep the mosquitoes away.



# HOW CAN YOU LOOK AFTER YOUR HEALTH?

There are many ways to care for your health if you feel unwell. Herbal medicine is part of everyday life and is often the first response when someone feels unwell. Herbal medicine may ease symptoms, but malaria testing and treatment at the clinic is essential to help clear malaria from the body.

When you notice symptoms of malaria - going early to visit a healthcare worker at a health facility is important. Health workers can test for malaria and provide medicine that treats malaria effectively and helps stop the sickness from coming back.



If you notice these signs, visit your nearest healthcare worker



Fever



Joint Pain





Nausea and/or vomiting



Headache



Fatigue



*We must raise awareness about this new way of taking primaquine within communities. Tell people about vivax malaria and tell them also that primaquine is the only medicine that can cure this sickness.*

*- Stanis, male, Madang*



# FAITH AND WORSHIP

“When it comes to religious practices, I often see Catholics praying for long hours outside. This can expose them to mosquito bites. Praying during the day is fine, but at night, it's not safe because of the mosquitoes. We tend to think this is a religious place, but mosquitoes are also there” - Raymond, male, Madang



# KINGS

"The man stays at home. When people get sick they come to this man and he prays over water and gives to patients to drink. He's one of my younger brothers (cousin). This man's father is my father's brother. He helps people in his community, called Sobonat" - Stannis, male, Madang



# MARIGOLD

“This plant is used as an herb. We boil water, take 6 flowers off the plant and add to the water. After the water color changes to the same color as the flower, we use the water to steam bath. We use this for running nose, malaria, coughs, and fevers” - Anna, female, Madang



# CHILLI PLANT

"That's a photo of a chili plant. When I got sick with flu or malaria, I used this plant as an herb to make a hot soup for drinking. This makes me sweat and then my body will become active. I also used 10 chili fruits to boil it with water to steam up my spine when having backaches" - Stanis, male, Madang



## WHAT THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' STORIES TEACH US

Healing from malaria is easier when no one has to do it alone.

Support your family and community by reminding them to take their medicine every day, helping them rest, and checking in on how they're feeling. Small acts of care can make a big difference in helping them recover and stay healthy.

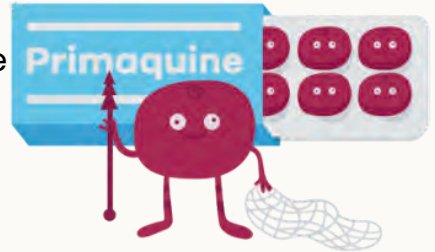


# WHAT MORE IS NEEDED TO STOP VIVAX?



# FINISHING YOUR FULL COURSE OF MEDICINE IS IMPORTANT

**Primaquine** is an anti-malarial medicine that is approved by the PNG government to treat and remove the hidden liver stage parasites of *P. vivax* malaria.



Mala-1 treats the blood stage of the parasite but *not* the liver stage.

Even if you complete Mala-1 and feel better, only the blood stage of the parasite has been cleared, the liver stage will remain for months and then emerge into the bloodstream and reinfect you. This is why it's important to complete primaquine treatment to successfully clear all the stages of vivax malaria.



"I FEEL BETTER  
AFTER TAKING  
MEDICINE" -  
SINCLAIR, MALE,  
MADANG

# NOT ALLERGIC

“This boy was in the study, taking primaquine. He has mixed infections. He took the PQ medicine and did not develop side effects from the treatment. The only thing I noticed was, he told me that while he was on the treatment, whenever he ran, he would feel his stomach hurt. But now he is fine. And has completed his PQ treatment” – Anna, female, Madang



# HEALTHY LIVING

“This is a picture of my parents. My dad has 4 siblings. All his siblings have passed already. I have lived with my parents for 48 years and I have never seen them sick with malaria. I have seen them with colds, flu, fevers and headaches, but not malaria. Both my parents do regular malaria check-ups but have never tested positive. My dad also does regular check-ups for blood pressure and sugar.” – Clefson, male, East New Britain



# TIMEKEEPER

“When I was young, my mother did not know how to read the time. My mother would often tell us that when the rooster crows, it’s time to take the medicine. I saw this rooster and thought of my mother and my childhood” – John, male, Madang



## TAKING YOUR MALARIA MEDICINE SAFELY

Primaquine can cause severe side effects in some people. So the dose of primaquine needs to be determined by a Malaria test and G6PD test that the health worker will do.

Primaquine can also cause gastrointestinal upset, especially if you do not take it with enough, healthy food.



*"When you are sick, you have to eat healthy food like veggies to fight against your sickness. There's cooked food beside the image but did not capture in the photo. I used to eat these healthy food or balance meal before taking my medicine"*

# SIDE EFFECTS OF PRIMAQUINE TO WATCH OUT FOR



Dark urine  
(red or black colour)



Breathlessness  
or shortness  
of breath



Fatigue



Dizziness



Rapid heart rate



Fever



Back pain



Yellowing of  
the skin and/or  
whites of the eyes



Pallor - unhealthy  
pale appearance



Nausea and/or  
Vomiting

# GROUP OF FOOD

“This photo shows my son who just completed his seven days of primaquine – he’s holding a bunch of greens his sister told him. In this photo, she was telling him, “You must eat a lot of greens, drink soup” – so it will strengthen your body. When I heard this, I thought okay, this is true, we need to eat greens, food so that it will help our body to be strong and we will activate and be alive. The community also have the same attitude about food. When we come to the health center, the nurses usually tell us to go back home, find greens and cook, so that we will have more blood. – When he was taking medication, he wasn’t eating well – but now he eats well. When I heard his sister tell him about eating greens, I was very supportive” – Francisca, female, Madang



# CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

“These kinds of things, when we take alcohol, drugs, it can weaken our immune system and our blood cells from fighting against malaria. That is why I took this picture. So, we can get the malaria virus when we do not keep our bodies healthy” - Clefson, male, East New Britain



# IDEAS FOR HEALTHY EATING

Eating well is important when taking primaquine to help ensure the medicine is taken safely and effectively. Good nutrition also supports your overall health and recovery.

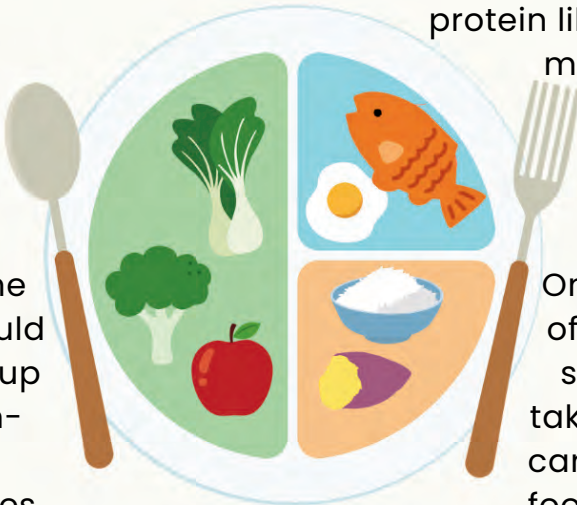
Below are some suggestions on the nutrients to include in your meals while you are on primaquine treatment.



Eat the colors of the rainbow every day- Go for 2 fruit and 5 vegetables



One quarter of the plate should be taken up with protein like eggs or meat



Half of the plate should be taken up with Non-Starch Vegetables

One quarter of the plate should be taken up with carbohydrate foods like rice or KauKau

# RECEIPE FROM MADANG

Aibika (greens) with coconut cream, veggies & fish

## Ingredients

- 1 whole fresh fish (reef fish or tuna), cleaned and cut into pieces (or 1 smoked fish)
- 1 large mature coconut, freshly scraped
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1–2 tomatoes, chopped
- 1 bundle aibika or pumpkin leaves, washed and roughly chopped
- Salt, to taste
- 1 cup water (for extracting coconut milk)



## Preparation

- Scrape the coconut into a bowl and add 1 cup of warm water.
- Squeeze thoroughly to extract thick coconut milk, strain and set aside.
- Clean and cut the fish into serving pieces
- Chop the onion, tomatoes & garlic.
- Wash the aibika or pumpkin leaves.

## Cooking Method

1. Pour the fresh coconut milk into a saucepan and place over medium heat.
2. Add the chopped onion, crushed garlic, tomatoes, and a little salt.
3. Bring gently to a light simmer (do not let it boil hard).
4. Add the fish pieces and cook gently for 5–10 minutes, until the fish is cooked through.
5. Add the aibika or pumpkin leaves last.
6. Simmer for another 2–3 minutes until the greens are soft.



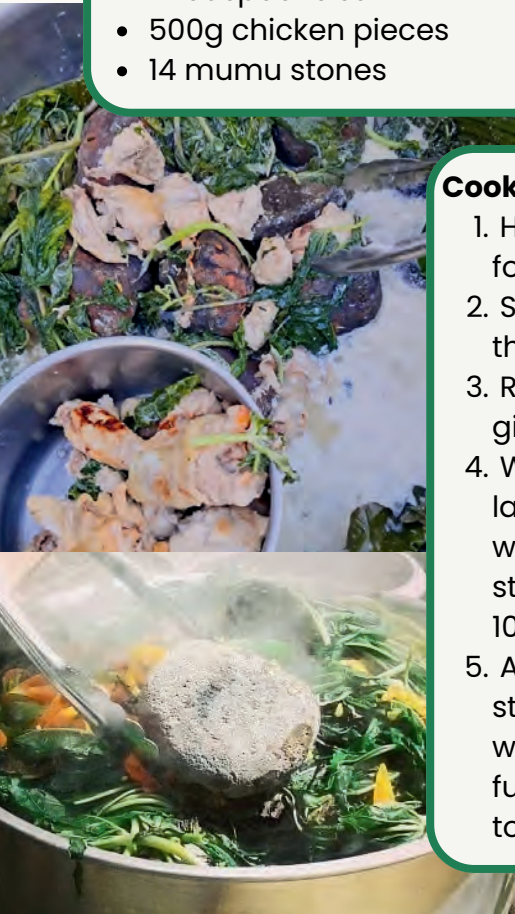
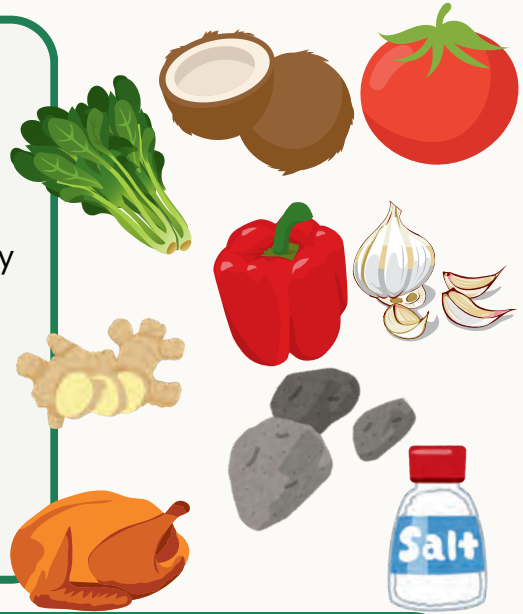
**Serve hot with (any of):** boiled kaukau, taro, sago, rice, banana, or any locally available staple food

# RECEIPE FROM EAST NEW BRITAIN

Aigir na Kakaruk : chicken cooked using the 'Aigir' (hot stone) method

## Ingredients

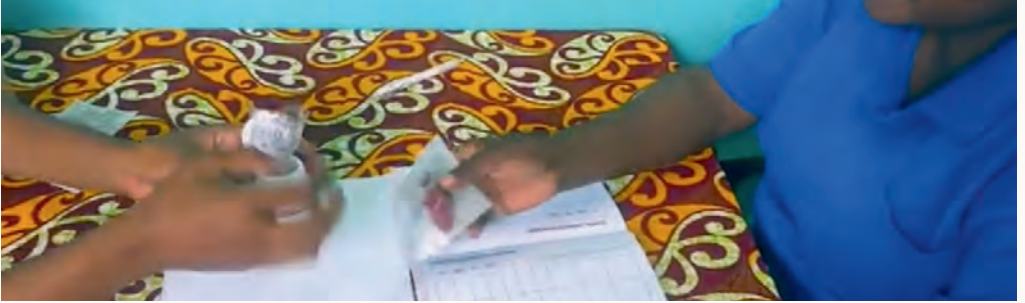
- 4 bunches of aibika, washed
- 5 coconuts, scraped and milked
- 4 large tomatoes, chopped
- 1 large knob of ginger, roughly chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, roughly chopped
- 4 small capsicums, chopped
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 500g chicken pieces
- 14 mumu stones



## Cooking Method

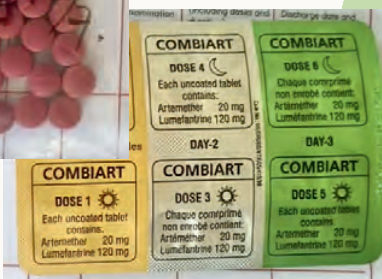
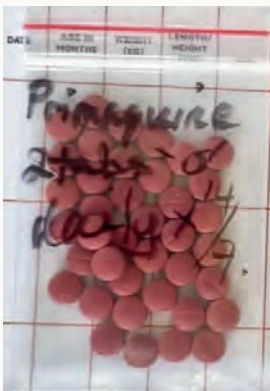
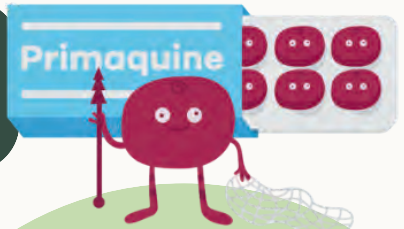
1. Heat mumu stones in an open fire for 20 minutes.
2. Scrape coconuts and squeeze out the milk.
3. Roughly chop the tomatoes, ginger, garlic and capsicums.
4. When stones are ready, place in a large pot. Add aibika and chicken while constantly turning the hot stones through. Do this for around 10 minutes.
5. Add all the remaining ingredients, stir through and turn. Cover the pot with the lid and allow to sit for a further 20 minutes before it is ready to eat.

# ONLY TAKE YOUR MEDICINE PRESCRIBED TO YOU BY HEALTHCARE WORKERS



For primaquine, the total dose is needed to effectively clear all the parasites in the liver. This total dose needs to be split over multiple days in order for the treatment to be safe.

It is extremely important that you take primaquine according to the health worker's instructions.



It is important to not give your primaquine tablets to other people as it will impact its effectiveness on curing your vivax malaria infection. It will also not be good for the person who receives the primaquine.



*"I recommend we look after our own health. So that if we do get primaquine, it will help us. I **would recommend this medicine to other people because it cuts down the amount of time you will need to take this dose.** The healthcare workers at the clinic tested my blood and I had enough to take the 7-day dose. And these **volunteers that did the Day-3 Follow-up, it was easy because they live in our small communities,** and the patients do not need to waste time going to the clinic. I took the medicine and up till now, **I have not gotten malaria. I am alright"** - Clefson, male, East New Britain*



# BLACK MARKET MEDICINE SALES

“If they are selling medicines like primaquine, as seen on the market table, my concern is how they can properly explain to patients how to take the medicine. It’s unsafe for untrained individuals to sell such medicines. They are not qualified health workers and may not know how to prescribe the correct dosage. This can lead to improper treatment of malaria, which not only risks the patient’s health but can also promote drug resistance. Selling medicine like this on the black market is unsafe” - Raymond, male, Madang



# STALL OWNERS

“This picture reminds me of some mammas and papas that spend their everyday lives doing marketing. They set up stalls like this and do their marketing. A good thing about marketing is that they will have income, but the bad part of it is that they don’t eat good meals. In the morning they would just go to the market without having breakfast, and for lunch they would just buy food at the market to eat. In the afternoon, they don’t go back home and make good meals for dinner, they would also buy food from the market to eat, and that’s what they do everyday. If we enrolled a child or an adult to take primaquine for 7-days, we must explain to them that you have to eat a full meal in the morning and in the afternoon to take these drugs. Many times they don’t eat good meals therefore a child or an adult would come back with GI problem” - Mary, female, Madang



## WHAT THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' STORIES TEACH US

The photographs show that everyday life can make it hard to take malaria medicine properly. Many people work long days and do not always have enough food. When meals are missed, malaria medicine can upset the stomach or be difficult to continue.



Malaria medicine should be taken with enough food and with guidance from trained health workers.



The photos show the importance of safe care. When people go to the clinic, health workers can test the blood, explain how to take the medicine, and check on patients during treatment. This support helps people finish their medicine and stay well.



SEEKING CARE EARLY  
AND SUPPORTING  
YOUR COMMUNITY



# ROAD ACCESS TO HEALTH FACILITY

“When I see this picture, it reminds me of the road and the distance that me and my children used to go to get medications at Mugil when we got sick” – John, male, Madang



# GOOD ROADS

“This is a picture of the driveway to my house. We have to keep the driveway to the house clear so that if any member of the family is sick at night, we can ask a vehicle to assist with transport and the vehicle is able to go all the way up to the house (the house is on a hill)” - Steven, male, East New Britain



# TEACHERS DAY

“These teachers they spend so much of their time, sitting outside and preparing their traditional costumes for the teacher’s day celebration, they sit out long into the night working on preparing their traditional costumes, and are not aware that they are exposed to mosquitoes that will bite them and cause sickness such as Malaria. My point is that even though they are educated, they forget about protecting themselves” – Raymond, male, Madang



# DISABLED NANA

“My sister she was born with this stump on her left leg. She had no foot on her left leg, but she’s very strong and, can do gardening for herself and you will hardly see her come to the health center and test positive for malaria. Because we advise her to sleep under the net and she’s always sleeping under the net. She has good food, some of us help to assist her with some good food to take home if she’s a bit sick. She uses all the strength to support the shorter leg so gets pain on one side, so we assist her with Panadol. But it is interesting that she did not get malaria and was not sick with malaria for a long long time now” - Mary, female, Madang



# SCHOOL

“I took the picture of a school building. For me personally, I think that awareness should be made within schools about the new revised case management because malaria is a killer disease. In this way, the children can go back home or to their communities and can disseminate this information” – Clefson, male, East New Britain



## TAKE HOME MESSAGES



Even though it can be hard getting to a facility, going early to the clinic is important as it allows health workers to test, explain treatment, and provide medicine that can treat malaria properly and help prevent it from coming back.

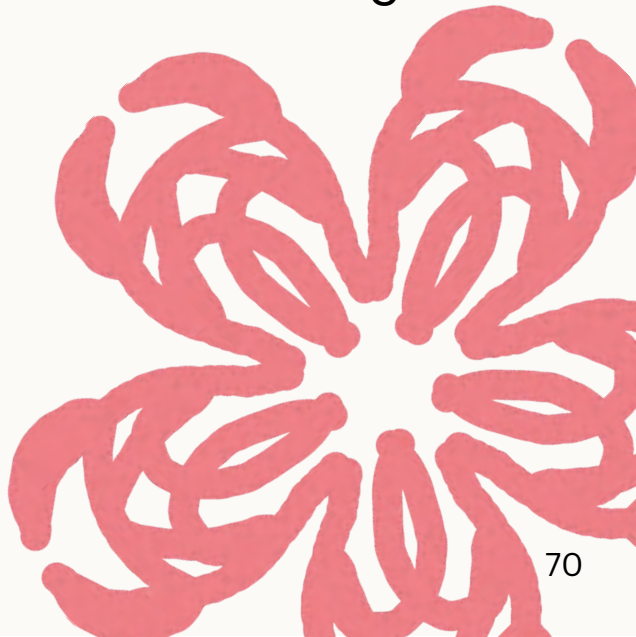
We protect each other by supporting care. When community members encourage one another to seek treatment from a healthcare worker, everyone benefits. Protection comes from care, support, and looking out for one another.

Positive messages matter. Sharing clear and supportive messages about malaria in places like schools, churches, and community gatherings helps people understand, trust, and seek care early.

Community ownership strengthens malaria control. When communities lead – through local champions, volunteers, and working alongside national efforts – malaria prevention and treatment become stronger and more sustainable.



*“We must raise awareness within communities and inform people that the new way of taking primaquine is better to cure malaria quicker” -  
Francisca, female, Madang*



# LESSONS FROM OUR STORIES



# WHAT THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' STORIES TEACH US

- Keep your community and yard clean
- Cover water containers in your community
- Sleep under a mosquito net every night
- Visit the health facility if you feel unwell
- Follow healthcare worker guidance on how to take your malaria medicines
- Eat healthy food, for example, vegetables, fruit and protein while taking your medicine
- Use herbs for symptom support but still visit a health care worker for malaria testing and treatment



# FINAL REMARKS FROM PHOTOGRAPHERS



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*On behalf of our communities, we sincerely express our gratitude to the PNG Institute of Medical Research team for conducting the vivax malaria research program in our area. Through our participation in this program, we have gained a better understanding that the 7-day primaquine treatment is a safe and effective option for curing vivax malaria and can help people recover more quickly. Vivax malaria is a serious sickness in the country, and a lot of people have been affected with this sickness. Therefore, we strongly support the roll-out of the 7-day primaquine treatment and believe it will greatly improve the health and wellbeing of our community.*

*Thank you! To all photographers, families, elders, youth, health workers and leaders who shared their stories and knowledge.*

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