

Pengandung gametosit Plasmodium falciparum (pfs25) dan Plasmodium vivax (pvs25) selama skrining dan pengobatan massal di NTT, Indonesia: studi longitudinal prospektif = Gametocyte carriage of Plasmodium falciparum (pfs25) and Plasmodium vivax (pvs25) during mass screening and treatment in West Timor, Indonesia: a longitudinal prospective study

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Abstrak

Latar belakang: Intervensi epidemiologi malaria bertujuan mendeteksi dan mengobati reservoir parasit di daerah endemik untuk mengurangi penularan lokal. Gametosit merupakan satu-satunya stadium penular sehingga penelitian ini dilakukan untuk mengevaluasi keberadaan gametosit sebelum dan sesudah intervensi skrining dan pengobatan massal (mass screening and treatment/MST) yang dilakukan selama tahun 2013 di Nusa Tenggara Timur, Indonesia.

Metode: RT-qPCR pada transkrip pfs25 dan pvs25 - penanda molekuler gametosit untuk Plasmodium falciparum dan Plasmodium vivax, dilakukan untuk mendeteksi dan mengukur gametosit dalam sampel darah subjek yang terinfeksi P. falciparum dan P. vivax selama studi MST. Keberadaan parasit aseksual dan seksual secara mikroskopis dan submikroskopik pada awal dan akhir MST dibandingkan dengan menggunakan uji proporsi serta uji parametrik dan non-parametrik.

Hasil: Prevalensi parasitemia pada P. falciparum tidak menunjukkan perubahan ($6\% = 52/811$ versus $7\% = 50/740$, $p=0,838$), namun sedikit menurun untuk P. vivax ($24\% = 192/811$ versus $19\% = 142/740$, $p=0,035$) antara awal dan akhir MST. Tidak ada perbedaan signifikan yang diamati pada prevalensi gametosit baik untuk P. falciparum ($2\% = 19/803$ versus $3\% = 23/729$, $p=0,353$; OR=1,34; 95%CI=0,69-2,63), atau P. vivax ($7\% = 49/744$ versus $5\% = 39/704$, $p=0,442$; OR=0,83; 95%CI=0,52-1,31). Meskipun tidak ditemukan perbedaan yang signifikan, sebagian besar subjek positif parasit pada akhir MST memiliki hasil negatif pada awal MST (P. falciparum: $66\% = 29/44$, P. vivax: $60\% = 80/134$). Hal ini juga ditunjukkan untuk stadium infektif - dimana mayoritas subjek positif gametosit pada akhir MST menunjukkan hasil negatif pada awal MST (P. falciparum: $95\% = 20/21$, P. vivax: $94\% = 30/32$). Hasil ini tidak tergantung pada pengobatan yang diberikan selama kegiatan MST. Tidak ada perbedaan yang ditunjukkan dalam kepadatan parasit dan gametosit antara awal dan akhir MST baik di P. falciparum atau P. vivax.

Kesimpulan: Di daerah penelitian ini, tingkat prevalensi parasit dan gametosit P. falciparum dan P. vivax yang sama sebelum dan sesudah MST, meskipun pada individu yang berbeda, menunjukkan tidak adanya dampak pada reservoir parasit. Pemberian pengobatan berdasarkan parasitemia positif yang diterapkan di MST perlu dievaluasi kembali untuk strategi eliminasi di masyarakat.

.....Background

A goal of malaria epidemiological interventions is the detection and treatment of parasite reservoirs in endemic areas – an activity that is expected to reduce local transmission. Since the gametocyte is the only transmissible stage from human host to mosquito vector, this study evaluated the pre and post presence of gametocytes during a mass screening and treatment (MST) intervention conducted during 2013 in East Nusa

Tenggara, Indonesia.

Methods

RT-qPCR targeting pfs25 and pvs25 transcripts - gametocyte molecular markers for *Plasmodium falciparum* and *Plasmodium vivax*, respectively, was performed to detect and quantify gametocytes in blood samples of *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax*-infected subjects over the course of the MST study. The presence of both asexual and sexual parasites in microscopic and submicroscopic infections was compared from the start and end of the MST, using proportion tests as well as parametric and non-parametric tests.

Results

Parasite prevalence remained unchanged for *P. falciparum* ($6\% = 52/811$ versus $7\% = 50/740$, $p=0.838$), and decreased slightly for *P. vivax* ($24\% = 192/811$ versus $19\% = 142/740$, $p=0.035$) between the MST baseline and endpoint. No significant difference was observed in gametocyte prevalence for either *P. falciparum* ($2\% = 19/803$ versus $3\% = 23/729$, $p=0.353$, OR=1.34, 95%CI=0.69-2.63), or *P. vivax* ($7\% = 49/744$ versus $5\% = 39/704$, $p=0.442$, OR=0.83, 95%CI=0.52-1.31). Even though there was an insignificant difference between the two time points, the majority of parasite positive subjects at the endpoint had been negative at baseline (*P. falciparum*: 66% = 29/44, *P. vivax*: 60% = 80/134). This was similarly demonstrated for the transmissible stage - where the majority of gametocyte positive subjects at the endpoint were negative at baseline (*P. falciparum*: 95% = 20/21, *P. vivax*: 94% = 30/32). These results were independent of treatment provided during MST activities. No difference was demonstrated in parasite and gametocyte density between both time points either in *P. falciparum* or *P. vivax*.

Conclusion

In this study area, similar prevalence rates of *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax* parasites and gametocytes before and after MST, although in different individuals, points to a negligible impact on the parasite reservoir. Treatment administration based on parasite positivity as implemented in the MST should be reevaluated for the elimination strategy in the community.