

EXECUTIVE ACTION DOCUMENT

DEVELOPING A SYSTEM FOR MONITORING SUSCEPTIBILITY OF FALCIPARUM MALARIA TO DRUGS IN THE REPUBLIC OF YEMEN (4-25 October ,2002)

1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

(a) Title of assignment :

Developing a system for monitoring susceptibility of falciparum malaria to drugs in the Republic of Yemen

(b) Name of consultant:

Ahmed Awad Abdel-Hameed Adeel

(c) Country and dates: The Republic of Yemen 4 to 25 October 2002

(d) Terms of reference, (as per RBM.9/11 YEM /MAL/001) :

1. To review the documents and experience available on antimalarial drug resistance in the Republic of Yemen .
2. To elaborate a monitoring plan including selection of sites.
3. To train a national core group of experts as part of the first survey in a selected sentinel site using standard WHO protocol for the in vivo test , including collection and entry of data using theExcel data entry form developed by WHO.
4. To submit to WHO Representative , Yemen , an assignment report written in English in hard copy and on diskette .

(e) Findings :

A plan for monitoring therapeutic efficacy of antimalarial drugs in the Republic of Yemen had been prepared by NMCP in Yemen. In the course of the present assignment this plan was reviewed and establishment of sentinel was initiated. The in vivo test for monitoring therapeutic efficacy of chloroquine was started in Bajil (Hudayda Governorate) and in Musemir (Lahaj Governorate). Staff to run the in vivo test were trained in these sites and in a national training workshop held in 19-21 October 2002 in Jaar, (Abyan Governorate). The suitability of the protocol for application in Yemen and the field problems regarding selection of sentinel sites were assessed .

(2) RECOMMENDATIONS

1: A system for continuous monitoring of therapeutic efficacy of antimalarial drugs in Yemen should be established based on the Country Plan prepared by the NMCP.

2: Selection of sentinel sites for monitoring should be reviewed and should be based on field visits to validate the reported incidence of microscopically confirmed cases of falciparum malaria .

3 :The sentinel sites should be closely monitored at the central level and some degree of flexibility should be exercised in implementing the plan regarding the number and distribution of the sentinel sites. These parameters could be modified based on field conditions especially the availability of cases and the performance of the sentinel site.

4: The problem of drug resistance in malaria has different facets and requires multiple types of expertise . This should call for closer collaboration between the Ministry of Public Health and academic institution in Yemen to conduct operational research in this field..

PLAN OF ACTION:

| Activity | By whom | Completion Dates |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Assigning a national focal point Selection of training team/ core group for monitoring drug resistance | National Malaria Control Program | 31 December 2002 |
| Selection of and starting work in another sentinel site in Hudayda to test CQ | National Malaria Control Program | 31 January 2003 |
| Selection and starting work in two additional sentinel sites to test CQ. | National Malaria Control Program | 1 March 2003 |
| Conduction of <i>in vivo</i> test in all 4-sentinel sites to test SP. | National Malaria Control Program | 1 November 2003 |
| Review of data and evaluation of work in sentinel sites | National Malaria Control Program | 1 March 2004 |