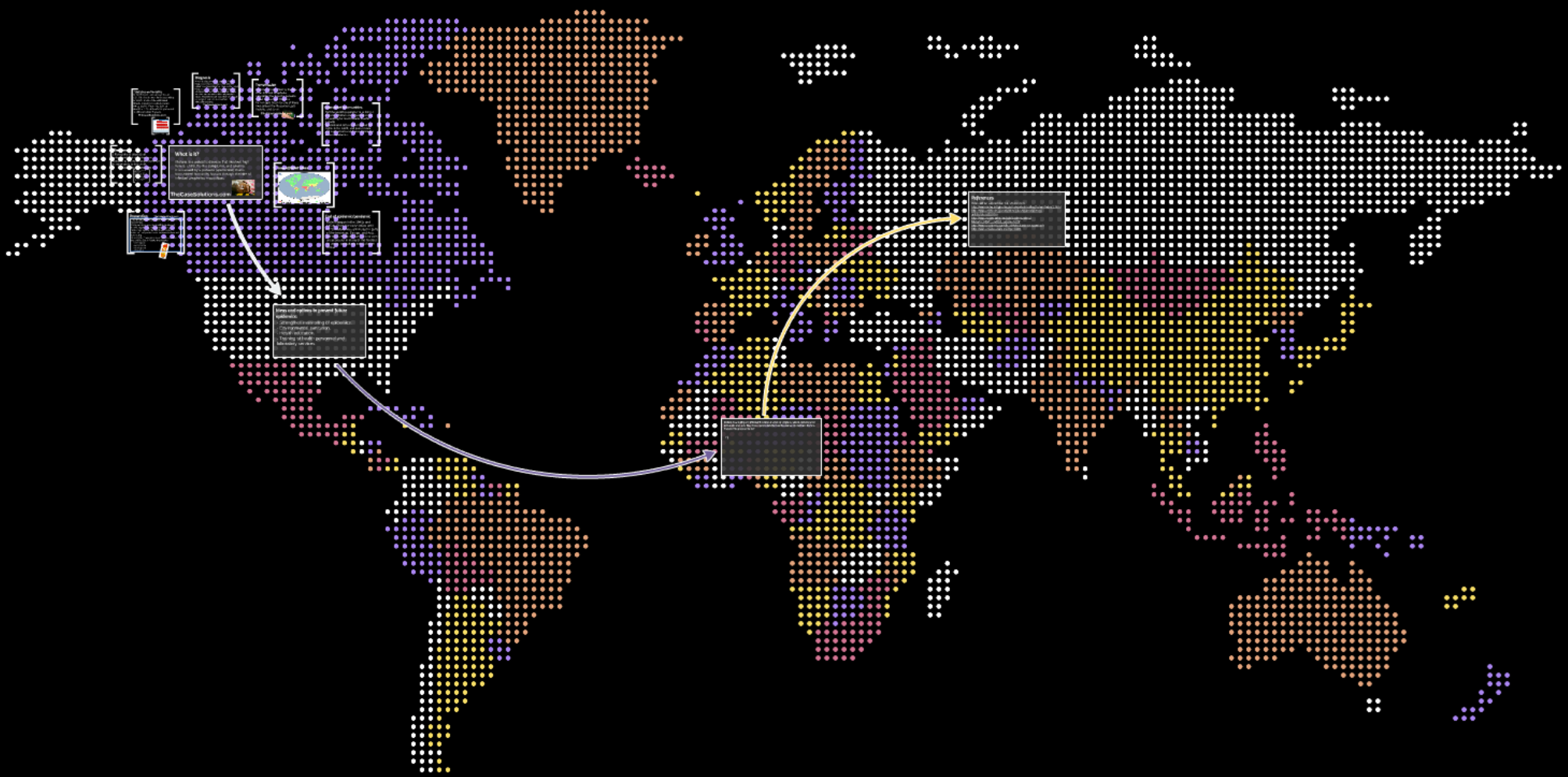


Uptake of Malaria Rapid Diagnostic Tests

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What is it?

Malaria is a parasitic disease that involves high fevers, chills, flu-like symptoms, and anemia. It is caused by a parasite (sporozoite) that is transmitted human by human through the bite of infected *anopheles* mosquitoes.



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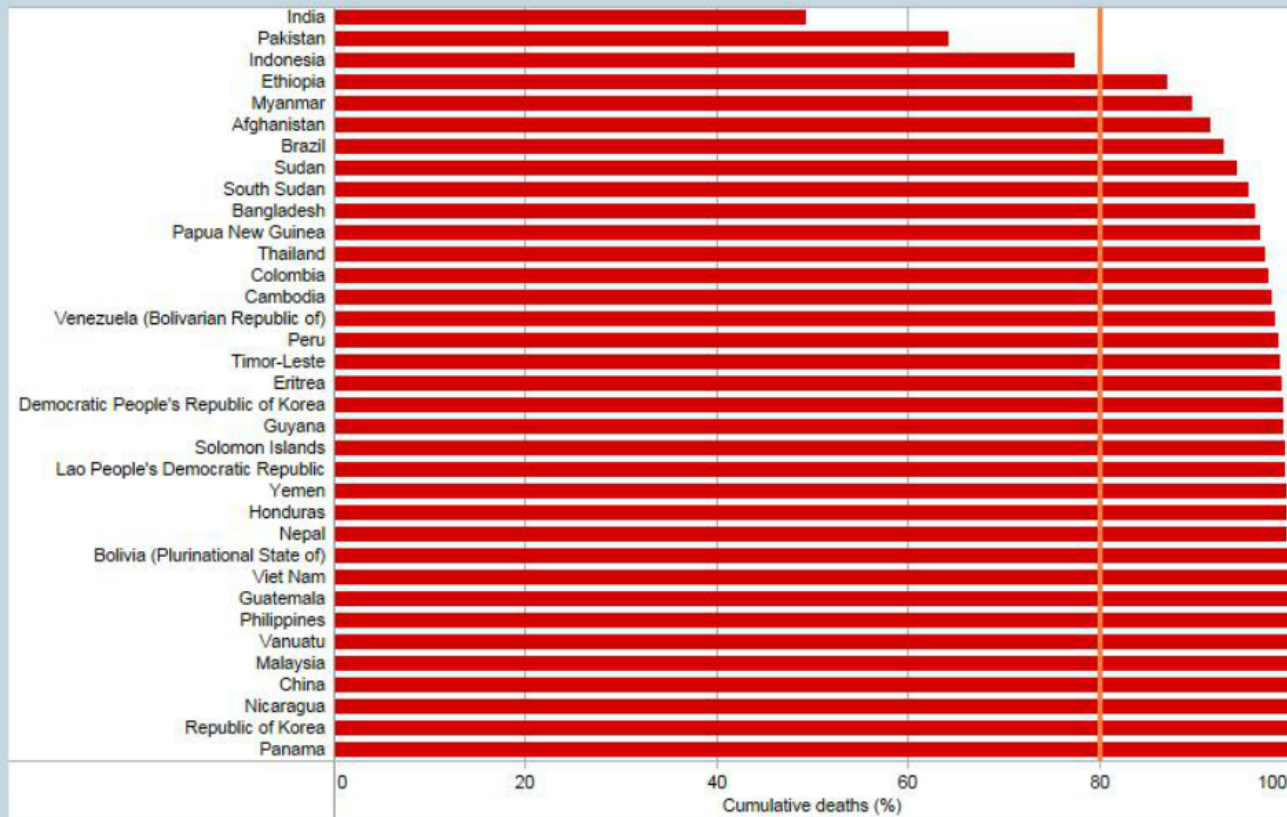
Statistics on Mortality

In 2012 there were an estimated 627,000 deaths worldwide according to WHO. Most of the estimated deaths occurred in sub-Saharan Africa (90%). From this 90% of deaths a 77% of deaths is presented in children under 5 years.

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Estimated deaths from malaria in 2012*



Source: Global Malaria Report, 2013

* Global estimated deaths accounted for by the countries with the highest number of deaths.

Note: the 80% gridline is highlighted to more easily distinguish countries that account for 80% of the estimated number of malaria deaths in 2012

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Diagnosis

A way to detect malaria fast is by Rapid diagnostic tests for malaria, sometimes called "reactive strips" or "devices for rapid diagnosis of malaria", they detect proteins produced by the malaria parasites. These proteins are present in infected people's blood. This test shows its presence through a change in color in an absorbent nitrocellulose strip.

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Transmission

Malaria is transmitted by the bite of an infected *anopheles* mosquito that has the parasite called sporozoite. Then if a human gets bitten by one of these mosquitoes the the person gets malaria, and so on.

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Treatment

Chloroquine is used as an antimalarial. But still, infections resistant to chloroquine are common in some parts of the world.

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Possible treatments for chloroquine resistant infections:

- Combinations of artemisinin derivatives, including artemether and lumefantrine.
- Atovaquone-proguanil.
- Treatment with quinine combined with doxycycline or clindamycin.
- Mefloquine in combination with artesunate or doxycycline.

Prevention

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- Use an effective insect repellent in clothing and exposed skin.
- Try to cover up bare areas with long-sleeved, loose-fitting clothing, long pants and socks.
- Before you go to a trip, you should go to the doctor, he'll tell you to start a treatment before and after the trip .

For example, Travelers to South America, Africa, Asia and the South Pacific should take:

- mefloquine
- doxycycline
- chloroquine
- malarone

