



Abstract

Background: Presently, all malaria diagnostic methods like: Microscopy and Rapid Diagnostic Tests are invasive as they depend on blood samples for malaria diagnosis. Hence this study was aimed at comparing the diagnostic

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Sampling technique

The systematic random sampling technique was used, with daily attendance as sampling frame. Recruitment of participants was done daily from Mondays to Fridays in the Limbe and Buea Regional Hospitals. Data was collected from the administration of structured questionnaires and interviews. Furthermore, each participant was given an identification number so as to avoid confusion in the course of the study.

Laboratory analysis

Specimen collection: The main specimens were blood and urine. Capillary blood was collected by finger pricking. 50 ul of this blood was used to make a thin and thick blood film. Microscopic analysis was prioritized over other methods of malaria parasite determination. Urine was collected in a leak-proofed container for UMT analysis.

Microscopic examination and quantification of parasites: The prepared blood films were air-dried and stained with 10% Giemsa (1 in 20 dilutions) for 25-30 min [12]. Two trained and experienced

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