

Letterhead

Target Malaria Burkina Faso and IRSS

Information form on volunteers involved in the capture of mosquitos on their persons

Introduction

We are a research team working at the *Institut de recherche en sciences de la santé* (IRSS) (Health Sciences Research Institute) in Bobo-Dioulasso. The IRSS is conducting multiple research activities on health problems, including on malaria. We are part of Target Malaria, a non-profit consortium that is trying to develop an innovative method to fight against vectors to reduce the transmission of malaria. Mosquitos are responsible for the transmission of the parasite carrying malaria from one person to another. Through this research, we are sampling mosquitos to better understand the species, their behavior and their role in the transmission of malaria and therefore, we need volunteers to participate in the sampling effort. IRSS Bobo-Dioulasso and Target Malaria would like to invite you to participate as a volunteer in the capture of mosquitos on one's own person.

What we expect from you?

- We are requesting that you be volunteers for the capture/ harvest of mosquitos through the capture of mosquitos on your person.
- This activity will take place approximately 4 nights per week once per month. It will take place in approximately 4 rooms per village in 3 villages in Burkina Faso.
- We will document on paper your permission as proof of consent for the next 12 months. However, during each harvest, and before carrying out the preparations, we will ask for an oral consent to ensure that you are willing to continue being a volunteer for the collection of mosquitos through capture on your own person.

Right to quit

This is a voluntary activity, you do not have to participate if you do not want to. Your non-participation will not affect you, nor will it affect your future participation to the project activities or potential benefits of this research. You can also decide to stop at any time by simply requesting this verbally, even after having given your consent. It is your choice and your rights will be respected.

What is the capture on one's own person?

The capture on one's own person is a precise method that targets only female mosquitos who bite humans. The method captures mosquitos alive, which complements other methods of collection. The volunteers collect the mosquitos by being seated, and by exposing their lower legs so that mosquitos land on them. To collect the mosquitos, they use a vacuum to capture mosquitos which are then trapped in a collection tube. The collectors (volunteers) are seated with their leg exposed up to the knee. The mosquitos that are collected are then transferred in a paper container covered in mesh and the time of capture is recorded on the container.

What will you have to do?

- If you accept, you will be one of the volunteers for the capture on your person. There is approximately 25 volunteers participating in the Target Malaria project in Burkina (Faso).

- Before the beginning of each harvest, one member of the entomology team will ask you questions to verify your consent and your state of health and will carry out a rapid malaria diagnostic test. In the case that you would show symptoms of malaria (positive diagnosis and fever), you would receive treatment and your participation in the harvest would be cancelled.

If you are in good enough health (even in cases of positive diagnosis but you are not showing any signs or symptoms of malaria) and that you confirm your intention to participate in the activity, you will be placed in an inside room, or outside, as decided by the team. You will be seated on a support (bed?) with the lower part of your leg exposed up to the knee, so that the mosquitos land on it.

- Once the mosquito has landed you must use the vacuum that will capture the mosquitos by sucking them into a collection tube. The mosquitos are then conserved in a solution of ethanol 80% after having been morphologically identified for future analysis.
- You will be able to participate in this collection for one or two sessions; either from 6pm to midnight, or from midnight to 6am, alternating (your location) every 2 hours between being inside or outside. It is not allowed to do two concurring sessions in the same night to prevent tiredness/ fatigue.

Risks and inconveniences

The health and safety of individuals is our main concern. It is possible to get bitten by a mosquito and to be infected by malaria or another sickness transmitted by the vector (mosquito) during the collection. Training and supervision are ways to reduce the risk, but if a volunteer is infected by malaria and their diagnostic test for malaria is positive 7 days following their participation in the collection on their own person, an antimalarial treatment will be offered in conformity with the directives of the national program to fight against malaria (Programme national de lutte contre le paludisme (PNLP)).

The biggest inconvenience anticipated is the fatigue that will be caused by working at night. To compensate for this fatigue and the time given by the volunteers, a compensation of 400 FCFA (approx. 70 cents US) per hour of capture will be given. A normal period is of 6 straight hours however you can desist from the activity at any time, even during session, without having to provide justification for your decision. You will receive compensation for each hour of collection even if this hour has not been fully completed.

Malaria monitoring process for volunteers

Before the capture on your person, the volunteers will be tested to diagnose for malaria (Rapid Diagnosis Test) by a health worker working for the closest CSPS: those having a positive test result and showing clinical symptoms of a bout of malaria, will be shown to the health center. 7 to 21 days following their participation in the capture of mosquitos on themselves, if the volunteer show symptoms and/or clinical signs of a bout of malaria, the volunteer must report this to the SE (monitoring and evaluation?) team of Target Malaria Burkina Faso who will then direct the volunteer to a public health centre. Once at the public health centre, the volunteer exposed to (mosquito) bites will be examined by a health worker, who, after consultation and or examination, will confirm whether or not the volunteer has a positive diagnosis for malaria. If the volunteer is diagnosed with malaria, the volunteer will be cared for by the health worker according to the protocols and directives of care of malaria as stipulated by the PNLP (National Program for the fight against Malaria) in Burkina Faso. The consultation fees,

medicine, and clinical test and or hospitalization costs will entirely be covered by the Target Malaria Burkina Faso project.

Training of volunteers

The volunteers of the capture of mosquitos on their own person must have received training from the entomology team of Target Malaria Burkina Faso. This training will be conducted before the first session of capture of mosquitos on one's person, and regular monitoring (verification) will take place during supervision of the activity to ensure the volunteer respects the procedure and the necessary precautions. This training will be documented and a certificate of completion delivered to the volunteer.

Benefits

There is no direct benefit (or compensation?) based on your participation to this activity, but it will help us to have a better idea of the behaviour of mosquitos. This knowledge is important in the fight against malaria through a control of mosquitos that spread the disease and could in the future be of help to the community and the country in efforts to better control mosquitos and malaria.

Confidentiality of information

The data that we collect on mosquitos and on the volunteers are entered into data cards of Target Malaria with codes and individual identification numbers that enable to keep personal information confidential. The information concerning your state of health and the results of the diagnostic test will be conserved the same way. These documents are for the unique use of research by the consortium Target Malaria. No identifiable information will be shared outside of the project without prior consent.

Results of the study

The results could be published in scientific articles on mosquitos, malaria and vector controls. We will also explain the results of the study to you and the community on an ongoing basis.

Approval of the study

This study was approved by the institutional ethics committee of the IRSS in Bobo-Dioulasso.

Contact person in case of need

For all questions about this study, you can, without delay or need for formal procedures, contact one of the people indicated below:

Dr Diabate Abdoulaye, principal researcher, Target Malaria Burkina Faso project.

Tel: 71 69 56 86

Dr. Pare/toe Léa, responsible for community engagement and other stakeholders , Tel. 70 75 93 61

Dr. Rouamba, Noel, President Institutional ethics committee, IRSS, Bobo-Dioulasso

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