



**World Health Organization**

The Malaria Vaccine Implementation Programme is a collaboration of the Ministries of Health in Ghana, Kenya and Malawi, WHO, PATH, GSK, UNICEF and partners.

# The RTS,S Malaria Vaccine

A WHO recommended vaccine for added protection against malaria to improve child health, save lives and strengthen malaria control in Africa and in other regions with moderate to high malaria transmission

## Malaria: An enduring health challenge

Malaria remains a primary cause of childhood illness and death in Africa and holds back prosperity in the region.



**400K+**  
DEATHS  
per year

African children are at highest risk

**260K+**  
CHILD DEATHS PER YEAR

Malaria has a negative impact on economies



in lost productivity annually worldwide

**70% LOWER** per capita income levels in endemic countries

**UP TO 40%** of public health budget of some African countries goes to treating malaria

Malaria progress has stalled. A tailored, optimal mix of tools – including RTS,S – can get malaria control back on track.



## The RTS,S/AS01 malaria vaccine pilots in Africa

Significantly reduces malaria and life-threatening severe malaria. Since 2019, delivered in childhood vaccination in 3 country-led pilots.



IN 2+ YEARS

**2.3 Million+**  
DOSES



**800K+** CHILDREN VACCINATED

Estimated to be cost-effective in areas of moderate to high malaria transmission



The result of 30 years of research & development

The RTS,S vaccine can be delivered through the existing platform of childhood vaccination that reaches more than 80% of children.

## What we know about the RTS,S malaria vaccine in routine use in Africa



### Feasibility

- Delivery of the vaccine is feasible.
- High, equitable vaccine coverage shown in routine use indicates community demand and the capacity of countries to effectively deliver it.
- No negative impact of vaccination on insecticide-treated bednet (ITN) use, uptake of other childhood vaccines, or care-seeking behaviour



### Equity

- Increases equity in access to malaria prevention: in routine use, the vaccine reached more than two-thirds of children who are not sleeping under a bednet (ITN)
- Layering the tools results in over 90% of children benefitting from at least one preventive intervention (ITN or the malaria vaccine)



### Impact

- 1 life saved for every 200 children vaccinated
- 40% reduction in malaria episodes
- Substantial reduction in deadly severe malaria in routine use
- Impact optimized in highly seasonal malaria settings by providing doses prior to peak "rainy" season



To date, more than 2.3 million doses of the vaccine have been administered - the vaccine has a favorable safety profile.

## Thank you

Thank you to the Ministries of Health of Ghana, Kenya and Malawi for their leadership and commitment to the RTS,S/AS01 malaria vaccine pilot programme. Thank you to Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and Unitaïd for their generous support.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information and the drug names and doses quoted in this Journal are correct. However readers are advised to check information and doses before making prescriptions. Unless otherwise stated the doses quoted are for adults.