

Special ASET Colloquium



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What causes virulence in malaria?

by Dr. Thomas E. Wellems, M.D., Ph.D.

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, USA



Most malaria cases do not result in death. However, virtually all children habiting intense transmission areas suffer multiple and repeated infections in their early years. Before the availability of modern medical care, an estimated 20% of children in highly malarious regions perished due to *P. falciparum* infections before they reached a reproductive age. This mortality may have put great selective pressure on the human genome with respect to drug resistance, immune evasion, and disease virulence.



Dr. Wellems received his M.D. and Ph.D. degree from the University of Chicago. Following a residency at the Hospital of Pennsylvania, he joined NIAID's Division of Intramural Research. His work focuses on drug responses, immune evasion, and pathogenesis of malaria. His work on molecular genetics of chloroquine resistance has been remarkable. He has also investigated extensively on protection conferred by human hemoglobinopathies and red cell polymorphisms. Currently he is working on determinants of virulence in malaria.

Friday, 8 January, 2010 at 3.30 p.m.

Homi Bhabha Auditorium, TIFR, Homi Bhabha Road, Mumbai 400005