

Primaquine Efficacy and Safety for Vivax Malaria: Africa

WWARN Vivax Primaquine Study Group. For further information go to <https://www.iddo.org/wwarn/vivax-reports>

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Introduction

This report is a condensed version of the full report assessing the effect of primaquine dose on efficacy, safety and tolerability. This report provides an overview of the results only. For more detail please refer to the standard report.

Table 1: Studies included in this report

Author-year	Follow up (days)	Treatment arms	PQ treatment arm details	Patients available
Taylor-2019	365	No PQ, PQ 7 mg/kg	Cq_Pq_7.0_7d_D0, Cq_Pq_7.0_14d_D0	571
Yeshiwondim-2010	157	PQ 3.5 mg/kg	Cq_Pq_3.5_14d_D3	139
Lacerda-2019	180	No PQ, PQ 3.5 mg/kg	Cq_Pq_3.5_14d_D1	27
Mekonnen-2023	42	PQ 3.5 mg/kg	Cq_Pq_3.5_14d_D0	102
Abreha-2017	365	No PQ, PQ 3.5 mg/kg	AL_Pq_3.5_14d_D2, Cq_Pq_3.5_14d_D2	397

* *ACT* – artemisinin-based combination treatment; *As* – artesunate; *AL* – artemether-lumefantrine; *Aq* – amodiaquine; *Cq* – chloroquine; *DP* – dihydroartemisinin-piperaquine; *GI* – gastrointestinal; *Mf* – mefloquine; *PQ/Pq* – primaquine; *SP* – sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine;

Primaquine treatment code describes (schizontocidal drug)(hypnozoitocidal drug)(total primaquine dose)(duration of primaquine treatment eg 14d = 14 days)(primaquine start day)

Efficacy

Inclusion in the efficacy analysis was restricted to studies with 42 days or more follow up and patients with data on day 0 parasitaemia. In this report, the efficacy analysis includes 1236 patients across 9 study sites, from 5 studies.

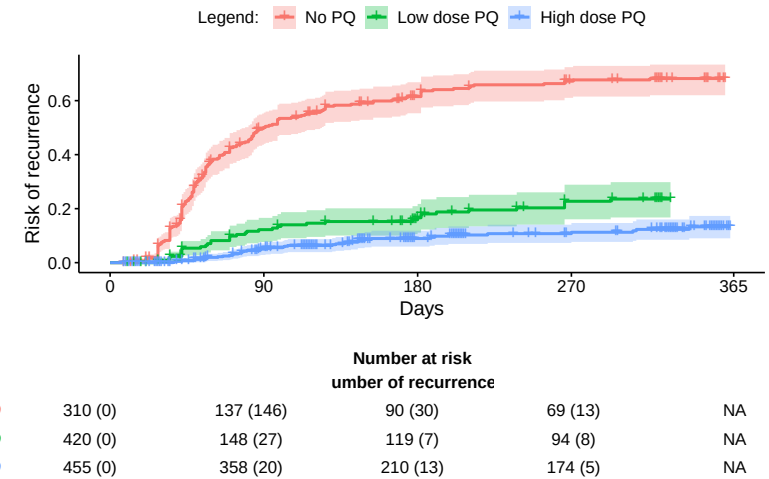


Figure 1: Kaplan-Meier figure of cumulative risk of recurrence between day 7 and day 365 for primaquine treatment category. Please interpret the results of this figure with caution as there may not always be paired treatment comparisons in the original studies contributing to these pooled results.

Low dose PQ - total primaquine 2 - <5 mg/kg;

High dose PQ - total primaquine $\geq$ 5 mg/kg

Haematology

The haematology analysis included 988 patients across 6 study sites, from 3 studies. The following analysis only considers the 974 patients across 3 studies with G6PD activity $\geq 30\%$.

Table 2: Summary of haematology outcomes, stratified by daily primaquine dose

	Primaquine daily dose level				Total
	Nil	Low	Intermediate	High	
	(N=315)	(N=196)	(N=233)	(N=230)	(N=974)
Drop in Haemoglobin of >25% AND Hb below 7 g/dL:					
No	308 (97.8%)	193 (98.5%)	230 (98.7%)	225 (97.8%)	956 (98.2%)
Yes	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.4%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.1%)
Missing	7 (2.2%)	3 (1.5%)	2 (0.9%)	5 (2.2%)	17 (1.7%)
Drop in Haemoglobin of >5 g/dL from baseline OR Hb below 5 g/dL:					
No	308 (97.8%)	193 (98.5%)	230 (98.7%)	224 (97.4%)	955 (98.0%)
Yes	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.4%)	1 (0.4%)	2 (0.2%)
Missing	7 (2.2%)	3 (1.5%)	2 (0.9%)	5 (2.2%)	17 (1.7%)

The following figure provides the estimated change in haemoglobin (Hb) from day 0, for different primaquine doses at day 2/3, adjusted for baseline haemoglobin, age, sex and day 0 parasitaemia and allowing for clustering by study site.

Care should be taken when interpreting these results, as model assumptions have not been fully assessed in this automated report format.

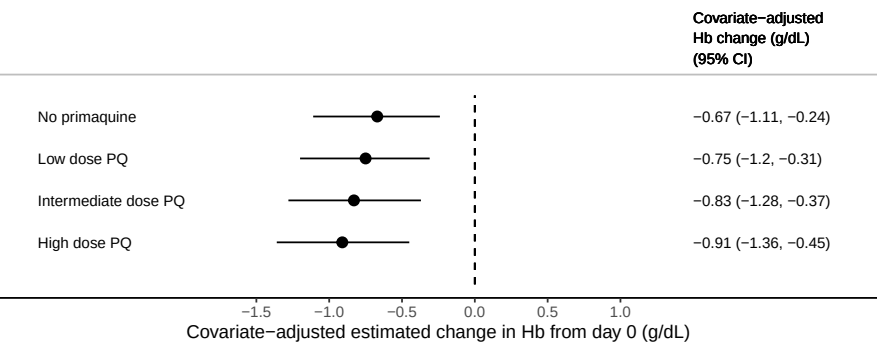


Figure 2: The covariate-adjusted estimated change in Hb from baseline to days 2-3, between primaquine daily dose groups, in patients with G6PD activity $\geq 30\%$.

Low dose daily primaquine (<0.375 mg/kg/day)
Intermediate dose daily primaquine (≥ 0.375 & <0.75 mg/kg/day)
High dose daily primaquine (≥ 0.75 mg/kg/day).