

Malaria

The disease Malaria is a mosquito-borne infectious disease of humans which begins with the bite from an infected female Anopheles Mosquito & involves high fevers, shaking chills, flu-like symptoms, muscle aches and pain, vomiting, bloody stools and anemia.

Malaria is transmitted through the bites of infected female mosquitoes, it can also be transmitted by blood transfusions and from a mother to her unborn baby. After infection, the parasites travel throughout the bloodstream infecting the red blood cells & penetrate into the liver, where they grown-up & reproduce. The foremost symptoms usually occur 10 days to 25 days after infection, though they can emerge as early as 8 days or as long as a year after infection.

During a physical assessment, the doctor may come across an enlarged liver or enlarged spleen. Malaria blood smears taken at 6 to 12 hour intervals confirm the diagnosis. Once confirmed proper Medical care, including fluids through a vein (IV) and other anti-malaria medications and breathing (respiratory) support may be needed, If not treated, this disease can quickly become life-threatening by disrupting the blood supply to vital organs.

Prevention is best cure- Avoid mosquito bites by wearing protective clothing, using screens on windows, using insect repellent & insecticidal nets.