77% of those who die from malaria are children under 5
That's almost one child every minute or 482,790 young lives lost every year

Children matter

Medicines matter
We need new medicines for children to cure them and counter drug resistance because...

Severe malaria can kill within 24 hours, without appropriate treatment.

Children are not just little adults. They absorb and metabolise medicines differently. Children need medicines adapted to their weight and age.

Antimalarials are bitter. Children often vomit the medicine and so do not receive a complete curative dose.

Speed matters
To get straight into the blood stream and kill the malaria parasite as quickly as possible, treatment for severe malaria must be injectable. Injectable artesunate is the WHO-recommended treatment for severe malaria.

Formulation matters
Antimalarials must be specifically adapted to paediatric physiology and prescribed according to weight and stage of development. Plus, antimalarials must be palatable to children to ensure they receive a complete curative dose.

MMV’s response

9 child-friendly medicines for the treatment and prevention of malaria.


450 million paediatric treatment courses of Coartem® Dispersible (artemether-lumefantrine) distributed to over 50 countries since 2009, saving an estimated 926,000 lives.

1st malaria treatment in for babies under 5kg in development.

Defeating Malaria Together