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Evaluation of the Clearview® Malaria pLDH as malaria rapid diagnostic test in travellers

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Background

Malaria Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs) are widely used to diagnose malaria. The present prospective study evaluated a new RDT, the Clearview® Malaria pLDH test targeting the pan-*Plasmodium* antigen lactate dehydrogenase (pLDH).

Methods

The Clearview® Malaria pLDH test was evaluated on fresh samples obtained in returned international travellers using microscopy corrected by PCR as the reference method. Included samples were *P. falciparum* (139), *P. vivax* (22), *P. ovale* (20), *P. malariae* (7), and 102 negative.

Results

Overall sensitivity for the detection of *Plasmodium sp.* was 93.2%. For *P. falciparum,* the sensitivity was 98.6%; for *P. vivax, P. ovale* and *P. malariae,* overall sensitivities were 90.9%, 60.0% and 85.7% respectively. For *P. falciparum* and for *P. vivax,* the sensitivities increased to 100% at parasite densities above 100/µl. The specificity was 100%. The test was easy to perform and the result was stable for at least 1 hour.

Conclusion

The Clearview® Malaria pLDH was efficient for the diagnosis of malaria. The test was very sensitive for *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax* detection. The sensitivities for *P. ovale* and *P. malariae* were better than other RDTs [1].

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