

## Malaria Worldwide >> Epidemiology

- It is estimated that about 300-500 million clinical cases of malaria occur each year.
- Approximately 2.5 million die from malaria each year
- Malaria is usually a 'rainy season disease'; coinciding with increased mosquito abundance.
- Deforestation, population migration and changes in agricultural practice have profound effect on malaria transmission. Urban malaria is becoming an increasing problem in many countries.
- In many areas the transmission of malaria varies considerably over short distances, and severe disease is common when non-immune individuals enter these areas.
- Epidemics are caused by migration (i.e. Introduction of susceptible hosts), the introduction of new vectors, or changes in the habits of the mosquito vector in the human host. Epidemics have occurred in North India, Sri Lanka, South East Asia, Madagascar and Brazil.
- Malaria is endemic in some 90 countries in Africa, Asia, Oceania and South America, and in the islands of Hispaniola in the Caribbea.

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