

Discovery, Development, and Delivery: Driving malaria elimination and Beyond

March 7-9, 2026 | Hotel Radisson Blu, Dwarka, New Delhi, India

7 March (Saturday)

Day 1

08:00-10:30 On Spot Registrations

OPENING SESSION

09:00-09:10 Organizers' address
(Vineeta Singh, Abhinav Sinha, Jaspreet Kaur, Mradul Mohan & Ritesh Ranjha)

09:10-09:20 WELCOME ADDRESS
(Anup Anvikar, Director, ICMR – National Institute of Malaria Research, India)

09:20-09:30 India's efforts towards malaria elimination
(Tanu Jain, Director, National Centre for Vector-Borne Diseases Control, Government of India)

09:30-09:50 How to eliminate malaria globally?
Philip Welkhoff, Gates Foundation

09:50-10:10 HOST'S MESSAGE
(Rajiv Bahl, Secretary Department of Health Research and Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research, Government of India)

10:10-10:45 OPENING KEYNOTE: Integrating the 3Ds in malaria research and elimination
Title TBD
(Suman Rijal, World Health Organization, India)

10:45-11:15 High Tea

THEMATIC SESSION 1: DISCOVERY

Uncovering new molecules, pathways and targets to understand malaria and catalyse malaria control and elimination

11:15-12:00 Interrogating parasite transmission biology to inform malaria elimination
(Mathias Marti, University of Zurich, Switzerland)

12:00-12:30 Title TBD
(Silvia Portugal, Max Planck Institute, Berlin, Germany)

12:30-13:00 Probing organelle protein targets and development of a quinoline to counter drug resistance in malaria
(Saman Habib, CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow, India)

13:00-14:00 LUNCH

14:00-14:15 Turbo Talk 1 (TBD)

14:15-14:30 Turbo Talk 2 (TBD)

14:30-14:45 Turbo Talk 3 (TBD)

14:45-15:15 The Plasmodium falciparum Kelch13 protein uses heme to KEAP(1) up a deceptive appearance for altering sensitivity to artemisinins
(Souvik Bhattacharjee, Jawaharlal Nehru, University, New Delhi, India)

15:15-15:30 Coffee BREAK

15:30-16:00 The fallacy of the "non-essential" genes in the malaria parasite
(V Arun Nagraj, Institute of Life Sciences Bhubaneswar, India)

16:00-18:00 POSTER SESSION I (Poster number 1-25)

THEMATIC SESSION 2: DEVELOPMENT

Shaping existing tools to refine, reshape and catalyse malaria control and elimination

09:00-09:45	Where are they, and where do they come from? Development of new tools to diagnose and track malaria parasites (Cristian Koepfli, University of Notre Dame, USA)
09:45-10:15	Title TBD (Jetsumon Prachumsri, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand)
10:15-10:45	TBD
10:45-11:15	Coffee BREAK
11:15-11:45	TBD
11:45-12:15	Recent advances in antigen-based malaria diagnostics; sensitivity, specificity, and field applicability (Kailash C Pandey, ICMR-National Institute of Malaria Research, New Delhi, India)
12:15-12:30	Turbo Talk 1 (TBD)
12:30-12:45	Turbo Talk 2 (TBD)
12:45-13:00	Turbo Talk 3 (TBD)
13:00-14:00	LUNCH

THEMATIC SESSION 3: DELIVERY

Interventional and operational research to fuel the last mile

14:00-14:45	Closing the gaps: tackling residual transmission on the path to malaria elimination (Neil Lobo, University of Notre Dame, USA)
14:45-15:15	Key data from the clinical trials that facilitated licensure and now widespread use of R21/Matrix M malaria vaccine for protection against falciparum (Mehreen S Dattoo, University of Oxford, UK)
15:15-15:30	Coffee BREAK
15:30-16:00	Malaria in Odisha: Challenges and way forward (MM Pradhan, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar, India)
16:00-18:00	POSTER SESSION II (Poster number 26-50)

THEMATIC SESSION 3: DELIVERY continued...

- 09:00-09:30 An indigenous advanced vaccine against *P. falciparum*: Dual protection against both infection and community transmission
(Susheel K Singh, ICMR-Regional Medical Research Centre, Bhubaneswar, India)
- 09:30-10:00 **TBD**
- 10:00-10:30 From Simple Chemistry to Promising Antiparasitic Leads
(Brijesh Rathi, Delhi University, New Delhi, India)
- 10:30-11:00 Coffee BREAK

THEMATIC SESSION 4: Malaria beyond falciparum and vivax

- 11:00-11:45 Beyond Human Parasites: The Challenge of Zoonotic Malaria to Elimination
(Balbir Singh, University Malaysia Sarawak, Malaysia)
- 11:45-12:15 **TBD**
- 12:15-12:30 Turbo Talk 1 (TBD)
- 12:30-12:45 Turbo Talk 2 (TBD)
- 12:45-13:00 Turbo Talk 3 (TBD)
- 13:00-14:00 LUNCH
- 14:00-14:45 Panel Discussion – Transcending boundaries for a common goal
(CARAH Foundation, ICMR-NIMR, NCVBDC)
- 14:45-15:15 Coffee BREAK
- 15:15-16:15 CLOSING KEYNOTE: Synthesizing evidence towards best practices in malaria elimination
Title TBD
(Richard Maude, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand)
- 16:15-16:30 Final Discussions / Q & A / Feedback
- 16:30-17:00 Valedictory, Thanks giving and CLOSE