



MASTER'S DEGREE IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

Research Project Proposal

Academic year 2023-2024

Project Nº 08

Title: A descriptive analysis of the malaria burden in pregnancy and newborns in the Monkole General Hospital in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

Department/ Laboratory: area of infectious diseases and microbiology, Clinica Universidad de Navarra

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Summary

Malaria is a parasitic disease caused by plasmodia and transmitted by Anopheles mosquitoes; it is still a major public health problem across the developing world. There were over 240 million cases and 600.000 deaths attributable to malaria in 2021.

Malaria disproportionately affects pregnant women. One in ten maternal deaths in malaria endemic countries are estimated to result from *Plasmodium falciparum* infection. Malaria is associated with a 3–4 times increased risk of miscarriage and a substantially increased risk of stillbirth.

The main objective of this work is to review the malaria data from women attending the antenatal clinic of Monkole (Kinshasa, DRC) as well as that of the children requiring neonatology care. We aim at describing the local malaria burden and explore potential risk factors associated with adverse pregnancy outcomes.

This work involves spending several weeks in Kinshasa, DRC.

yes	
no	x

Does the project include the possibility of supervised animal manipulation to complete the training for animal manipulator?