

**Natural human infections with plasmodium cynomolgi and other malaria species
in an elimination setting in Sabah, Malaysia**

ABSTRACT

To determine the presence and species composition of malaria infections, we screened a subset of samples collected during a cross-sectional survey in Northern Sabah, Malaysia using highly sensitive molecular techniques. Results identified 54 asymptomatic submicroscopic malaria infections, including a large cluster of *Plasmodium falciparum* and 3 *P. knowlesi* infections. We additionally identified 2 mono-infections with the zoonotic malaria *Plasmodium cynomolgi*, both in individuals reporting no history of forest activities or contact with macaques. Results highlight the need for improved surveillance strategies to detect these infections and determine public health impacts.