Modern Vector Control

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The rapid spread of mosquito resistance to currently available insecticides, and the current lack of an efficacious malaria vaccine are among many challenges that affect large-scale efforts for malaria control. As goals of malaria elimination and eradication are put forth, new vector-control paradigms and tools and/or further optimization of current vector-control products are required to meet public health demands. Vector control remains the most effective measure to prevent malaria transmission and present gains against malaria mortality and morbidity may be maintained as long as vector-intervention strategies are sustained and adapted to underlying vector-related transmission dynamics. The following provides a brief overview of vector-control strategies and tools either in use or under development and evaluation that are intended to exploit key entomological parameters toward driving down transmission.

alaria, dengue, and other mosquito-borne diseases are public health problems in many parts of the world. There were an estimated 214 million cases and 438,000 deaths attributed to malaria in 2015 (WHO 2015a). Malaria-control strategies that have shown success include treatment of infected individuals with drugs, application of insecticide to reduce mosquito populations through indoor residual spray (IRS), and reduction of human contact with infected mosquitoes via insecticide-treated nets (ITNs) (D'Acremont et al. 2010; O'Meara et al. 2010). In 5 years (between 2000 and 2015), the global incidence of malaria fell 37% and malaria mortality decreased by 60% (WHO 2015a). However, \sim 3.2 billion people remain at risk of malaria, with continued associated morbidity and mortality.

Vector control remains the most effective measure to prevent malaria transmission.

Vector-targeted interventions have been successful at reducing malaria mortality and morbidity worldwide-both historically and presently (WHO 2015a). The core goal of vector control is to reduce the vectorial capacity of a vector population below that required to maintain a malaria reproduction rate (R_0) of greater than 1—where R_0 is the number of human malaria cases that result from each human case in a population (malERA Consultative Group on Vector Control 2011). This has been shown from larval control in Brazil (Soper and Wilson 1943) and Egypt (Shousha 1948) in the 1940s, to the discovery of dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane (DDT) for use in IRS campaigns and present-day long-lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLINs). Vector control hence remains an integral part of the Global Malaria Control Strategy (GMSC) (WHO 1993). These remarkable effects and value to global health should be

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maintained as long as vector-related interventions are sustained and remain viable.

Effective vector control depends on the overlap between the specific intervention and susceptible vector behaviors (Elliott 1972; Bayoh et al. 2010; malERA Consultative Group on Vector Control 2011; Kiware et al. 2012; Killeen et al. 2013, 2014; Russell et al. 2013; Killeen 2014). Essentially, an intervention is more efficient if it functions on repeated vector behaviors such as ITNs killing susceptible mosquitoes when they look for a blood meal, which occurs once during a gonotrophic cycle and subsequently several times during the mosquito's life span (Killeen et al. 2014). Treated nets are, therefore, most efficient if the vector population hostseeks indoors while the local human population is asleep. In a similar manner, IRS is most effective against indoor resting vectors (Killeen et al. 2014). However, malaria transmission can be maintained by many vector species despite high coverage of ITNs and/or IRS as they may show behaviors that allow them to escape the effect of these interventions (Bugoro et al. 2011; Russell et al. 2013; Bayoh et al. 2014; Killeen 2014). With the case of ITNs, vector populations may avoid the intervention by feeding outside or early in the evening-at times when people are not sleeping under nets (Russell et al. 2013). Insecticide resistance will also impact the lethal effects of these interventions (Toe et al. 2014; Glunt et al. 2015).

Gains achieved by vector control in reducing malaria transmission cannot be relaxed without the expectation of a rebound in malaria incidence. Both a historical review and simulation modeling suggest that a scale-back of malaria vector control has a high probability of malaria resurgence for most scenarios, even where malaria transmission is very low or has been interrupted (WHO 2015b). In addition, residual transmission, that is, malaria transmission that happens outside the limits of the interventions in use (such as early-evening or outdoor biting in which ITNs are primary strategy) (Killeen 2014; WHO 2014), and insecticide resistance to pyrethroids-the most commonly used synthetic chemicals (Quinones et al. 2015; World Health Organization pesticide evaluation

scheme [WHOPES], www.who.int/whopes/ en), remain the biggest threats to control and elimination strategies. Indeed, studies suggest that current interventions strategies that rely primarily on ITNs and IRS are insufficient to eliminate or eradicate malaria (Shaukat et al. 2010) and a shift to the use of nonpyrethroids in Africa has occurred (N'Guessan et al. 2007; Mnzava et al. 2015). These points are the impetus for several novel intervention strategies being evaluated or developed. Such new tools are targeting transmission dynamics, vector species, and behaviors not susceptible to present interventions to include outdoor transmission, animal biting, sugar feeding, and the immature stage of the vector.

CORE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION VECTOR-CONTROL STRATEGIES

Both ITNs and IRS remain core malaria-intervention strategies worldwide. These WHOrecommended interventions combined with chemoprevention in pregnant women and children, diagnostic testing, and access to treatment have largely contributed to the gains against malaria in the last few years (WHO 2015a). Typically, used independently, studies to determine impact from combination use have been conducted to help guide further gains. In Mozambique and Equatorial Guinea, protective effects of IRS with ITNs have been suggested to be additive (Kleinschmidt et al. 2009; Hamel et al. 2011; Fullman et al. 2013; West et al. 2014, 2015). Other studies found no evidence of an added benefit when combining ITS and ITNs (Nyarango et al. 2006; Corbel et al. 2012; Pinder et al. 2015; Protopopoff et al. 2015), whereas others remain unclear (Gimnig et al. 2016), pointing to the requirement of additional evidence (WHO 1993).

Insecticide-Treated Nets (ITNs)

ITNs, a form of personal protection, function by both providing a physical barrier to mosquitoes as well as the lethal effect of insecticides that are present on the bednet material. With high coverage, the size as well as the life span of the vector

population is reduced—further protecting the community (Hawley et al. 2003). This intervention targets a permethrin (or insecticide-in-use) susceptible vector population that host-seeks indoors, whereas the local human population is asleep under a treated net and functions once per gonotrophic cycle. ITNs are consequently most effective against late-night and indoor-biting vectors. Historically, mosquito nets have been used against nuisance insects (Lindsay and Gibson 1988; Lengeler 2004). Studies in the 1980s showed that pyrethroids were safe for humans and both repelled and killed mosquitoes-showing that ITNs resulted in both individual and community-wide protection against malaria infection (Lengeler 2000, 2004). Driven by increasing access and distribution of ITNs, the proportion of the population sleeping under an ITN has increased dramatically in sub-Saharan Africa since 2000. However, the increasing number of ITNs have been insufficient to achieve universal coverage (WHO 2015a) and, this, along with the increasing spread of insecticide resistance (N'Guessan et al. 2007; Temu et al. 2012; Mulamba et al. 2014; Toe et al. 2014; Mnzava et al. 2015) and behavioral modification by the vector (Bayoh et al. 2010; Russell et al. 2013; Glunt et al. 2015), may point to the limits of the effectiveness of this intervention (Bayoh et al. 2014; WHO 2015a).

Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS)

IRS is the application of insecticide to the inside of human habitation, that is, walls and other surfaces that may serve as a resting place for malaria vectors. IRS effects result in knockdown and/or mortality of those vector populations that rest on these treated surfaces and are susceptible to the insecticide in use. IRS generally functions once per gonotrophic cycle when a mosquito rests on the sprayed surface before or after a blood meal. Historically, IRS with DDT has reduced malaria in many settings around the world. IRS contributed to the elimination of malaria from parts of Asia, Russia, Europe, and Latin America. Successful IRS programs were the primary mosquito intervention during the Global Malaria Eradication Campaign

(1955–1969) and have contributed to the elimination of malaria from parts of Asia, Russia, Europe, and Latin America, with successful IRS programs showed in parts of Africa. The successful use of IRS in Mozambique, South Africa, Swaziland, and Zimbabwe (Mabaso et al. 2004) prompted its present reintroduction as a primary tool in vector-control strategies with a shift to nonpyrethroids (N'Guessan et al. 2007; Mnzava et al. 2015) due to the increase in insecticide resistance of malaria vectors across Africa. Although IRS coverage has declined (primarily due to the cost of insecticides) in recent years, 2014 represents the largest proportion of the population being protected by IRS in Africa (WHO 2015a). Annual rotation of IRS insecticides is currently the best practice for resistance management in malaria vectors in most settings (Mnzava et al. 2015).

Both IRS and ITNs are effective tools for reducing disease. Studies in Mozambique and Equatorial Guinea have indicated that protective effects of IRS with ITNs may be (West et al. 2014, 2015) additive (Kleinschmidt et al. 2009; Hamel et al. 2011; Fullman et al. 2013). Other studies found no evidence of an added benefit when combining ITS and ITNs (Nyarango et al. 2006; Corbel et al. 2012; Pinder et al. 2015; Protopopoff et al. 2015), whereas others remained unclear (Gimnig et al. 2016), pointing to the requirement of additional evidence (WHO 1993).

Larval Source Management

Larval source management (LSM) is the management of bodies of water—potential larval habitats for mosquitoes, in an effort to prevent the completion of development of the immature stages (Tusting et al. 2013). Unlike IRS and LLINs, which target the adult stages, LSM targets the immature larval and pupal stages in the attempt to reduce the number of adult mosquitoes. LSM functions once in the lifetime of a mosquito during its larval stage. The four types of LSM—all directed toward limiting the adult population—include habitat modification, habitat manipulation, chemical larviciding, and biological control.

Habitat or environmental modification is meant to be permanent and includes drainage, filling, land leveling, and alteration of water reservoirs. Essentially, naturally occurring pools, pockets, and seepage ponds-suitable habitats for immature mosquitoes—are modified by the reinforcement of banks, deepening of channels, or diversion of flow (WHO 2013). Filling of holes, pits, and ponds in and around human habitation is a more simple method of habitat modification but requires more frequent management (WHO 2013). Habitat manipulation, on the other hand, is a recurrent activity more associated with agriculture, such as in rice cultivation (Mabaso et al. 2004; Temu et al. 2012). The manipulation temporarily reduces or removes mosquito habitat or kills immature stages. This includes changing the salinity of breeding sites (desalination or salination), flushing of streams and water bodies, regulation of the water level in reservoirs, as well as removal of vegetation for increased exposure to sunlight (WHO 2013). Larviciding is the regular application of insecticides, whether synthetic or natural, to water bodies (WHO 2013). These include a wide range of emulsifiable concentrates, suspension concentrates, water-dispersible granules, wettable powders, granules, pellets, and briquettes (WHO 2013). Bacterial, or biological, larvicides are highly effective with the added benefit of being selective, and having minimal nontarget effects. Bacillus thuringiensis subsp. israelensis (Bti) and Bacillus sphaericus (Bs) are the primary biologicals used for malaria vector control (WHO 2013). These bacteria produce a highly specific endotoxin, affecting only larvae of mosquitoes, black flies, and midges and are effective where target organisms are resistant to other larvicides (Fillinger et al. 2003; WHO 2013). Spinosad, another bacterial larvicide, is a combination of metabolites from the bacterium Saccharopolyspora spinosa. Insect growth regulators such as methoprene and pyriproxyfen, mimic mosquito juvenile hormone and prevent the development of larvae to the pupal stage subsequently killing the vector. Globally, trends indicate an increased use of insect growth regulators for the control of malaria vectors; however, this is minimal relative to other methods of vector control (WHOPES). Biological control is the introduction of natural aquatic predators into the breeding habitat (WHO 2013). These include fungi (e.g., Laegenidium giganteum) and mermithid nematodes (e.g., Romanomermis culicivorax), which parasitize and kill larval mosquitoes; however, these are not widely used because of inefficiency. Likewise, mosquito-eating fish (such as Gambusia affinis and Poecilia reticulate) have largely been ineffective except in a few studies. A recent Cochrane review (Tusting et al. 2013; Walshe et al. 2013) on the use of larvivorous fish as a malaria intervention concluded that there is a lack of evidence and insufficient research to show whether larvivorous fish consistently reduce the density of malaria vectors and malaria.

LSM has a long history of use in diverse settings with various levels of success in urban, lowtransmission and elimination settings (Watson 1911, 1953; Hopkins 1940; Soper and Wilson 1943; Muirhead-Thomson 1945, 1951; Shousha 1948; Holstein 1954; Clyde 1967; Fillinger et al. 2009; Fillinger and Lindsay 2011). Its contributions to recent successes in reductions of malaria burden have not been considered substantial although there has been a significant amount of attention. A 2012 review by the WHO Malaria Policy Advisory Committee (WHO 2012b) combined with a 2013 Cochrane review on mosquito LSM for controlling malaria (Tusting et al. 2013), determined that larviciding should only have a limited role in malaria control in areas where mosquito breeding sites are few, fixed, and findable (Tusting et al. 2013; WHO 2012b). An additional term "fixable" (T Burkot, pers. comm.) has also been proposed to be required, with the concern that these may not be "fixable" with LSM (e.g., large lagoon breeding sites of Anopheles farauti in the Solomon Islands) (Bugoro 2011). An additional Cochrane review on larvivorous fish for preventing malaria transmission (Walshe et al. 2013) found no reliable studies that report that the introduction of larvivorous fish has an effect on malaria infection in nearby communities, on entomological inoculation rate, or on adult anopheline density.

A WHO operational manual (WHO 2013) provides guidance on the planning, implemen-

tation, management, and evaluation of LSM strategies. The combination of a lack of scientific studies showing effect as well as the need for better understanding of basic larval biologyhabitats, abundance, behavior, and distribution of the larvae of malaria vectors (Fillinger et al. 2004) agree with the WHO emphasis that LSM programs need to be tailored to local environmental conditions and should be based on comprehensive and cost-effectiveness studies-that is, require evidence based decision making. LSM requires a comprehensive infrastructure composed of trained individuals, a monitoring system with appropriate logistical and analysis capabilities and a timely feedback and reaction system, with financial, community, and political commitment.

The success of LSM on malaria control depends, in part, on the basic reproductive number for malaria, R_0 and the EIR capacity (Garrett-Jones and Shidrawi 1969; Killeen et al. 2000; Smith et al. 2007). LSM, with the effect being on the larval and pupal stages, has a linear and not exponential effect on R_0 and is only as effective as its implementation. These interventions are affected by the heterogeneous distribution of adult emergence rates from larval habitats. If the removal of a few larval breeding sites drastically reduced adult mosquitoes populations, LSM may possibly produce a large effect on malaria transmission with little effort (Smith et al. 2007; WHO 2012b). Biological control may have a large impact in the steady state balance of an introduced insect but not necessarily on a naturally present vector.

Host-Mediated Control Zooprophylaxis

In malaria endemic settings where transmission is in part the result of zoophilic vectors, two routes of control have been suggested: diversion of vectors away from human hosts to alternative nonhuman blood meal sources (zooprophylaxis) and the use of nonhuman hosts as bait to attract vectors to a toxic host or blood meal source (insecticide-treated livestock/endectocides). This intervention targets a vector population that prefers feeding on animals and functions once per gonotrophic cycle. The effect this intervention has on the vector population is directly proportional to the amount of zoophagy present.

Zooprophylaxis is considered to be controversial in its potential for both beneficial and detrimental outcomes. For example, despite diverting vectors to nonhuman host sources, the use of livestock may actually result in zoopotentiation (Saul 2003), suggesting that the larger numbers of animals and the ease of acquiring a blood meal could result in less time spent hostseeking. This would thereby correspond to reduced vector mortality overall and a potential increase in the number of blood meals taken on humans by infectious vectors. In situations where livestock are kept in close proximity to humans, animals may actually increase the risk of mosquito bites to individual persons by attracting vectors to the general proximity of human hosts (Schultz 1989; Hewitt et al. 1994; Bouma and Rowland 1995). Despite these scenarios, the use of insecticide-treated livestock and endectocides is gaining in popularity (Donnelly et al. 2015; Chaccour and Killeen 2016).

The expectation is that zooprophylaxis would have the greatest impact on malaria transmitted as a result of zoophilic vectors. The efficacy of zooprophylaxis may be enhanced by attracting vectors to insecticide-treated livestock. This approach has been attempted in both the United States (Nasci et al. 1990) and the Philippines (delas Llagas et al. 1996). Treatment of all domesticated animals with insecticides resulted in a decrease of malaria incidence and prevalence in Pakistan (Hewitt et al. 1994). Although there have been encouraging findings, the impact of insecticide-treated livestock on malaria transmission in Africa has yet to be assessed.

Endectocides

Endectocides are classified as systemic drugs with both endoparasitocidal and ectoparasitocidal activity (Foy et al. 2011). Drugs used against endoparasites such as Avermectin and Ivermectin have long been known to have a killing effect on a number of blood-sucking arthropods. Endectocides hold several advantages

over traditional insecticides-these interventions travel with the host and do not rely on time or place to be effective. The primary advantage is that this strategy will be effective against endophagic, exophagic, and zoophilic vectors as well as crepuscular and night-biting vectors (Foy et al. 2011). In addition, the mode of action for endectocides ensures that there is a low probability of cross-resistance with current insecticidal strategies (Strycharz et al. 2008). This increases their usage where pyrethroidbased interventions are threatened by insecticide resistance. Last, these systemic drugs have the potential to inhibit the development of the malaria parasite, thus making them a viable target to combat drug resistance in the malaria parasite. Although endectocide use is an attractive option for malaria control, issues of cost (Burnham and Mebrahtu 2004; Goldman et al. 2007), long-term human use (Duke et al. 1990; Guzzo et al. 2002), and resistance buildup in both endo- and ectoparasites (Bourguinat et al. 2007) have been raised. Alternatives to this approach are to use treated livestock as the delivery medium for the endectocide to host-seeking vectors. Such approaches would again be focused on zoophagic vectors but would reduce health impacts associated with maintaining human populations on long-term drug therapy.

Focusing solely on these drugs ability to reduce vector abundance in intervention programs may be too simplistic (Wilson 1993), and these strategies need to be assessed for their ability to affect all variables associated with vectorial capacity.

Push–Pull Strategies

Personal protective measures have shown usage for preventing malaria (Hill et al. 2007, 2014; Syafruddin et al. 2014) and for reducing the overall intensity of outdoor biting (Goodyer et al. 2010). Using interventions focused on repelling mosquitoes from an individual, however, have prompted concerns that diverted vectors may result in higher attack rates on unprotected populations (Maia et al. 2013). Therefore, a strategy that relies on killing mosquitoes and reducing community-level risk is much more desirable (Howard et al. 2000).

One novel strategy currently being developed uses a push-pull approach that seeks to exploit the complementary effects of repellents and traps. Developed initially as a way to control agricultural and urban pests (Cook et al. 2007), push-pull interventions work by combining the repellency action of one component and the attractiveness of another to elicit movement away from a protected resource and toward a trap for subsequent removal from the environment (Pyke et al. 1987; Cook et al. 2007; Kitau et al. 2010; Reddy and Guerrero 2010; Paz-Soldan et al. 2011; Menger et al. 2014; Wagman et al. 2015). Accordingly, push-pull strategies for the control of mosquito vectors of human disease would use repellents to deter host-seeking mosquitoes from treated spaces toward a baited trap resulting in their capture and removal from the peridomestic environment thereby decreasing population densities for added community protection and/or personal protection of hosts in the outdoor environment (Cook et al. 2007; Kitau et al. 2010; Paz-Soldan et al. 2011). Although still in the proof-of-concept phase, preliminary studies have been encouraging (Kitau et al. 2010; Menger et al. 2014; Wagman et al. 2015), showing reduced biting rates and house entry.

Spatial Repellents

The term spatial repellent is used here as a general term to refer to chemical products designed to release volatile chemicals into the air and elicit a range of insect behaviors induced by airborne chemicals that result in a reduction in human–vector contact (Achee et al. 2012a; WHO 2012a). A large number of products are commercially available that use chemical actives registered as spatial repellents (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [EPA]). These products range in cost and sophistication from expensive heat driven electrical outlet plugins used in the Europe to inexpensive mosquito coils that are widely used throughout Africa and Asia.

Spatial repellents can induce mosquitoes to move away from a chemical stimulus, interfere

with their host detection (attraction-inhibition) and/or feeding response (WHO 2012a) and consequently can operate on all adult behaviors that incorporate movement. These effects have been measured in laboratory studies (Grieco et al. 2005; Suwannachote et al. 2009), in phase II testing under experimentally controlled conditions (Grieco et al. 2000, 2007; Ogoma et al. 2012), and in field settings (Pates et al. 2002; Kawada et al. 2004a,b; Lucas et al. 2007) against *Aedes* spp., *Anopheles* spp., and *Culex* spp. of varying insecticide resistance profiles. There is also evidence from a phase III study in Indonesia that spatial repellents can impact malaria incidence (Syafruddin et al. 2014).

The role for spatial repellents in modern vector control can best be conceptualized for transmission settings in which IRS and/or LLINs may not offer full protection or have reached their efficacy limits, especially in areas with residual transmission or areas where elimination is proposed. Control of malaria in these areas will require new approaches and this may be where spatial repellency would be most effective (Achee et al. 2012b; Ogoma et al. 2012, 2014). Spatial repellents may show effect against insecticide-resistant populations and have the potential to limit the spread of insecticide-resistant alleles because of reduced selection pressure when considering the nonlethality of effect (WHO 2012a). Spatial repellents could be offered as stand-alone tools where no other interventions are currently in use; or, most likely, combined with existing interventions to augment efficacy of these other tools.

Attractive Toxic Sugar Baits

Attractive toxic sugar baits (ATSBs) represent a new tool for the indoor and outdoor control of mosquito disease vectors. Mosquitoes are killed when they are attracted to and feed on toxic sugar meals that are either sprayed on plants or used in bait stations. This intervention targets a toxin susceptible vector population while sugar feeding. Because sugar feeding has been shown to occur repeatedly and often in the adult mosquito, the potential effects of this intervention on a vector population may be dramatic. The use of sugar feeding to reduce mosquito populations was first reported in 1965 (Lea 1965) and then in several other studies (Schlein and Pener 1990; Robert et al. 1997; Muller and Schlein 2006; Xue et al. 2006; Schlein and Muller 2008; Muller et al. 2010b,c) in *Aedes* and other *Culicine* mosquitoes as well as sand flies. Effects on anopheline populations were shown in Israel and Mali (Muller et al. 2008, 2010b). This approach may be used in either of two ways, that is, direct mortality induced by feeding on the bait, and/or, the bait may be used to disseminate mosquito pathogens or toxins (Schlein and Pener 1990; Allan 2011).

Attractive toxic sugar bait solutions are composed of sugar, an attractant such as a flower scent, and an oral toxin. Toxins tested include malathion (Lea 1965), boric acid (Xue and Barnard 2003), spinosad (Muller and Schlein 2006), fipronil (Xue et al. 2008), as well as several other classes of insecticide (Muller and Schlein 2006). Toxins, such as boric acid, hold the added advantage of being safe for the environment. Attractants focus on locally acquired sugars, juices and fruit—as mosquitoes may be selective to carbohydrate choices originating from their geographic range (Grimstad and De-Foliart 1974; Muller and Schlein 2005; Muller et al. 2010a).

Sugars derived from plants are an integral component of mosquito nutrition and provide energy for survival, flight, and enhance fecundity and vectorial capacity (Nayar and Sauerman 1971, 1975a,b; Foster 1995; Briegel 2003; Gu et al. 2011). Both male and female mosquitoes may feed on sugar sources several times a day-primarily after emergence and then as required (Reisen et al. 1986; Foster 1995; Foster and Takken 2004; Gary and Foster 2006). Because sugar feeding occurs more often than blood feeding and continues throughout the life of the insect, this behavior represents an opportunity in a mosquito life cycle where a vector intervention may be placed. An accumulative effect of ATSBs on a mosquito population was shown for an area with readily available alternate sugar sources; however, the overall population level lethality was delayed relative to sugar poor areas (Beier et al. 2012). This sug-

gests that ATSBs may be highly effective in arid, sugar-poor environments.

The recurrent nature of sugar feeding suggests a large ATSB effect on vectorial capacity (Garrett-Jones and Shidrawi 1969; Gu et al. 2011). A single application of ATSBs affected mosquito density, parity, survival, and hence vectorial capacity (Garrett-Jones and Shidrawi 1969; Beier et al. 2012). ATSBs in conjunction with other interventions like bednets might show an exponential effect as energy-deprived mosquitoes (e.g., those that are unable to acquire a blood meal because of bednets) seem to take more and larger sugar meals (Stone et al. 2012). A primary drawback of this strategy is the possibly effect on nontarget organismsthe killing of other sugar feeding insects (honey bees and pollinators in particular).

Altthough ATSB approaches are being developed and tested, they represent new powerful tools for the control of malaria vectors, especially because this method is simple, inexpensive, and environmentally friendly, and has been shown to be highly effective for mosquito control.

Genetic Control

Genetic control of malaria vector populations can be described as the dissemination of genetic or inheritable factors toward the decrease of disease and/or target vector populations. These control strategies rely on the dispersal of a modified organism for the purpose of mating with wild-type populations and are therefore species-specific. These strategies are expected to function synergistically with current and other proposed disease-intervention programs.

Curtis first presented the concept of genetic control in 1968 (Curtis 1968). Recent advances in molecular biology have resulted in the germline transformation of several anopheline species (Catteruccia et al. 2000; Grossman et al. 2001; Perera et al. 2002; Lobo et al. 2006). These systems have shown a reduction in vector competence (James et al. 1999; de Lara Capurro et al. 2000; Ito et al. 2002; Bian et al. 2013; Wilke and Marrelli 2015) and have further progressed to developing drivers that can disseminate these systems into natural populations (Burt 2003; Deredec et al. 2008; Windbichler et al. 2011; Bian et al. 2013; Gantz et al. 2015; Hammond et al. 2016). Toward testing and wild release, large sets of molecular markers and genome sequences have been produced that can be used to study population structure and gene flow (Thomas et al. 2000; Black and Lanzaro 2001; Donnelly et al. 2001; Walton et al. 2001; Holt et al. 2002; Neafsey et al. 2015).

Genetic control can be broadly separated into germline transformation of mosquitoes, involving the germline manipulation of a genome and paratransgenesis-which works with transformation of obligate symbionts (Alphey et al. 2002). Paratransgenesis involves genetically modified organisms that can colonize vector species (Wilke and Marrelli 2015). Genetically modified symbiotic bacteria are reintroduced into the vector species where they express the genetic trait (Beard et al. 1993; Conte 1997; Favia et al. 2007; Coutinho-Abreu et al. 2010). These genetic traits may be a pathogenic effect in the host, interfering with reproduction, reducing vector competence (Bian et al. 2013) or the reproductive pathway (Yoshida et al. 2001; Chavshin et al. 2012; Bongio and Lampe 2015). Wolbachia have recently shown the ability to confer fitness costs on Anopheles vectors (Joshi et al. 2014) and inhibit Plasmodium infection (Jin et al. 2009; Kambris et al. 2010; Hughes et al. 2011). However, some studies have shown the opposite, where Plasmodium infections were enhanced in the presence of Wolbachia (Hughes et al. 2012). This finding necessitates a clearer understanding of underlying processes. Various other symbiotic bacteria species have been identified in anophelines and may be used for paratransgenesis, the choice of which is determined by the approach being used (Beard et al. 1993; Yoshida et al. 2001; Gonzalez-Ceron et al. 2003; Lindh et al. 2005; Favia et al. 2007; Wilke and Marrelli 2015). An advantage of paratransgenesis over that of genetic transformation is that a transgeneic strain is required for every species or reproductively isolated strain in the latter, while the same paratransgenic system may be used for multiple species as long as the bacteria being used can survive and the system

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function in the vector species used (Sayler and Ripp 2000; Riehle and Jacobs-Lorena 2005; Riehle et al. 2007; Wilke and Marrelli 2015).

Suppression and replacement strategies: Outcomes of genetic control strategies include (1) both population suppression, where the number of vectors in a target population is reduced, and (2) population replacement, where a trait is spread in the natural vector population toward the reduction of vectorial capacity at some point in the vector life cycle (Alphey et al. 2002; Wilke and Marrelli 2012). The "release of insects with dominant lethality" (RIDL) system uses a dominant lethal gene with a female-specific promoter (Heinrich and Scott 2000; Thomas et al. 2000; Atkinson et al. 2007). When genetically modified, males mate with wild females, sexspecific lethality results in inviable female progeny. Several genes and lethal mechanisms may be used with this system (Fortini et al. 1992; Alphey 2002). Population-replacement strategies have resulted in several anopheline species being genetically modified toward the disruption of Plasmodium transmission. Anopheles stephensi was transformed to express a peptide that blocked the majority of oocyte development (Ito et al. 2002). Other studies that have shown the ability of germline transformation to reduce or inhibit malaria transmission include the expression of venom phospholipase (Zieler et al. 2001; Moreira et al. 2002), single-chain antibodies (Isaacs et al. 2011) and other antimalaria genes (Meredith et al. 2011).

Self-limiting and self-sustaining strategies: Self-limiting as well as self-sustaining strategies may be used (Alphey et al. 2002). A strategy that incorporates a strong fitness penalty will result in the rapid reduction of the target population by natural selection. Sterile insect technique (SIT) (Alphey 2002) is a highly effective, areawide method where periodic mass releases of irradiated and sterile males are required to maintain the selection pressure. Sterile-male methods incorporate the release of sterile males, which, because of infertile mating, results in population suppression (Helinski et al. 2008). Genetic sexing mechanisms that are self-sustained and stable offer a major benefit more than traditional SIT techniques that rely on radiation-based sterilization (Heinrich and Scott 2000; Thomas et al. 2000; Alphey 2002). In general, population replacement strategies are self-sustaining, whereas population suppression strategies are self-limiting (Alphey et al. 2002; Jasinskiene et al. 2007; Wilke and Marrelli 2012). Self-sustaining paratransgenic systems such as Wolbachia invade and are maintained in the population once initially established in the target (Alphey et al. 2002; Wilke and Marrelli 2012). Genetic transforming self-sustaining strategies usually consist of two components-a genetic refractory mechanism that enable either population suppression or refractoriness to disease transmission, as well as a gene-drive system (Sinkins and Gould 2006) that disseminates the transgene cargo into the population toward the disruption of disease transmission (Zieler et al. 2001; Ito et al. 2002; Moreira et al. 2002; Isaacs et al. 2011; Meredith et al. 2011). There are several gene-drive systems that include the use of selfish genetic elements like transposons (Burt 2003; Chen et al. 2007; Sethuraman et al. 2007), meiotic drive genes (Lyttle 1991), and homing endonuclease genes (HEGs) (Burt 2003; Deredec et al. 2008).

Transposable elements are able to move within a genome and increase their number (Scott et al. 2002). The spread of the P element in *Drosophila melanogaster* is an example of the spread of a transposon in a population (Kidwell 1992; Engels 1997). Although common in malaria vectors (Holt et al. 2002) and having been used in germline transformation (Catteruccia et al. 2000; Grossman et al. 2001; Perera et al. 2002), there have not been any studies showing their use as a gene-drive system in *Anopheles* vectors (Sinkins and Gould 2006).

Meiotic drive, usually in males, occurs when a heterozygous locus segregates at a greaterthan-expected frequency (Lyttle 1991; Sinkins and Gould 2006) through various mechanisms.

HEGs are selfish genetic elements naturally found in microbes (Burt and Koufopanou 2004; Stoddard 2005). They encode an endonuclease that recognizes and cleaves specific DNA sequences of $\sim 20-30$ nucleotides that usually is present only once in the genome. This gene is inserted into the cleaved sequence. In a hetero-

zygous genome, the chromosome without the endonuclease gets cleaved and the broken chromosome gets repaired using the homolog containing the HEG thereby propagating itself in the genome. In principle, an HEG with a transgene cargo is able to cleave a highly conserved target gene and should be capable of population invasion from a low starting frequency (Deredec et al. 2008) with germline incorporation of an HEG transgene. HEGs may be used in two ways (Burt and Koufopanou 2004; Deredec et al. 2008), that is, an HEG can be engineered to recognize a specific nuclear gene/sequence where, on insertion, it would knockout the gene. An HEG construct may be engineered to recognize and insert into a repeat sequence on the X chromosome, be linked to meiosis-specific control sequences, and inserted on the Y chromosome. The HEG bearing Y would propagate in the population biasing the sex ration toward males (Galizi et al. 2014).

Multiple genetic control strategies are presently being investigated and some have successfully been tested in the field with other field tests ongoing.

Integrated Vector Management (IVM)

IVM is a rational decision-making process for the optimal use of resources for vector control (WHO 2004, 2011; Beier et al. 2008). This encompassing approach to prevent disease transmission relies on evidence-based decision making and aims to maximize the efficiency, cost effectiveness, ecological soundness, and sustainability of a disease vector program based on all available tools. Central to IVM is an understanding of the vector, the disease transmission cycle, the environment, and how the intervention strategy reduces man-vector contact, vector survival, and the intensity of disease transmission. The acceptability and safety of the strategies, as well as flexibility of the program, is vital to its success. The global strategic framework for IVM and the WHO handbook (WHO 1982, 2004) establish broad principles and approaches to vector control. Distinguishing factors of IVM include advocacy, social mobilization and legislation, collaboration within and

outside the health sector, an integrated approach, evidence-based decision-making, and capacity building (WHO 2004; Beier et al. 2008). Success stories and various efforts in Africa include those in South Sudan (Chanda et al. 2013), Uganda (Mutero et al. 2012), Zambia (Chanda et al. 2008), among other countries (Alimi et al. 2015; Smith Gueye et al. 2016). Although, at present, the full extent of IVM on malaria transmission is unknown, historical implementations of IVM-like strategies have shown significant effects against disease transmission across a wide range of transmission settings (Beier et al. 2008). Evidence suggests that IVM can complement present malaria intervention programs such as ITN use, by avoiding the dependence on single intervention methods (Killeen et al. 2000; McKenzie et al. 2002; Caldas de Castro et al. 2004; Beier et al. 2008; Mutero et al. 2012, 2015).

Following on from evidence-based IVM strategies, central to the development and success of any intervention be it a combination or a single tool, is the understanding of the local vector species with their bionomic characteristics. The manner in which vector populations respond to these interventions and insecticideassociated selection pressures is required to evaluate effectiveness. Control measures may be profoundly impacted by the development of physiological insecticide resistance (Ranson et al. 2011; Gatton et al. 2013; Strode et al. 2014) and behavioral resistance-the ability of a vector population to change its bionomic characteristics in response to an intervention (Taylor 1975; Reddy et al. 2011; Russell et al. 2011, 2013; Bayoh et al. 2014). Epidemiology and entomology studies as well as vector-control programs require a strategic understanding of key local vector characteristics, such as feeding preferences and insecticide resistance, while also distinguishing vectors and nonvectors within anopheline cryptic species complexes, beyond the level of morphology. The wrong associations of local vector species with behavioral traits impact interpretations of species distributions, insecticide resistance, host preference studies, trap efficacy, and even screening for malaria parasites (Stevenson et al. 2012; Lobo

et al. 2015)—all of which influence the efficacy of an intervention.

CONCLUDING REMARKS AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

Present recommended vector-control strategies rely primarily on ITNs and IRS and have shown significant impact on malaria transmission. However, these alone may not be able to eliminate malaria and point to the requirement for additional tools, some of which are outlined in this review. Although, none of these tools present a "magic bullet," their combination with other strategies may enhance local vector control strategies toward the elimination of malaria. The greatest opportunity for impact on elimination/eradication is the better understanding of susceptible vector bionomic traits that may be used for the implementation, development, and use of effective vector control tools. The development and validation of novel vector control tools (such as ATSBs and genetic modification), as well as new insecticides, are required to fill in gaps in protection and provide additional weapons in residual transmission settings where our current tools are inadequate. Combinations of interventions that target different aspects of a vectors life cycle would be more efficacious and could enable the reduction of residual transmission. Other technologies-such as the use of satellite imagery-in combination with specific interventions can cater strategies to geographic requirements resulting in more efficacious interventions toward elimination.

The effectiveness of vector interventions toward elimination is dependent on local transmission dynamics that include nonvector factors such as access to health care, access to personal protective devices, and intervention distribution, human behavior, parasite species population dynamics, and drug resistance, among others. It is vital that a program aimed at geographic elimination or eradication incorporates both long-term feasibility and comprehensive primary stakeholder engagement (national, programmatic implementation, and research entities). Understanding and maximizing how various entities function in the intervention and elimination sphere and using entomological intelligence to design policies will allow for a larger effect on transmission. A systems approach should collates and analyze existing data characterizing malaria transmission dynamics while also identifying data gaps. Vital data should include entomological endpoints such as vector bionomics, epidemiological incidence and prevalence, human components that contribute to transmission such as migratory and travel patterns, and an evaluation of all stakeholder malaria-control efforts to include implementation and surveillance. This will allow the evaluation of vector intervention strategies in place, with a focus on their optimization while also examining the gaps in protection based on entomological bionomic data. Molecular analysis of Anopheles specimens will allow for a temporal characterization and association of bionomics with specific species-enabling the direct association of intervention efficacy with Anopheles species. Insecticide resistance tests will enable an indication of insecticide efficacy at the sites based on local interventions in place. Epidemiological interventions, such as mass drug administration, and other parasitesrelated activity should also be evaluated. Risk factors associated with human behaviors that affect transmission as well as local knowledge and practices must be examined. This systems analysis with associated filling of data gaps will enable the characterization of residual transmission: the optimization of present strategies as well as outlining possible tools that will fill gaps based on local transmission dynamics. As countries strive for malaria elimination, they must adopt proactive versus reactive strategies that will delay the onset of insecticide and/or behavioral resistance. Improved and sustained access to appropriate vector-control tools and strategies will be essential for the elimination and eradication of malaria.

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Modern Vector Control

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