

The potential  
contribution of  
tafenoquine to  
radical cure in vivax  
malaria elimination

Andy Walker PhD  
GSK

13 Dec 201  
JITMM (Bangkok, Thailand)

# Acknowledgements

---



- Studies co-sponsored by GSK & MMV
- Patients, PIs, site staff, LOC, CROs & study volunteers
- Everybody who has been involved
  - too numerous to mention individually

# Disclosure

---

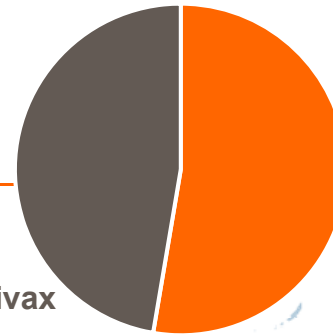


- I am an employee of GSK and hold stocks and shares in the company

# Malaria Burden excluding sub-Saharan Africa

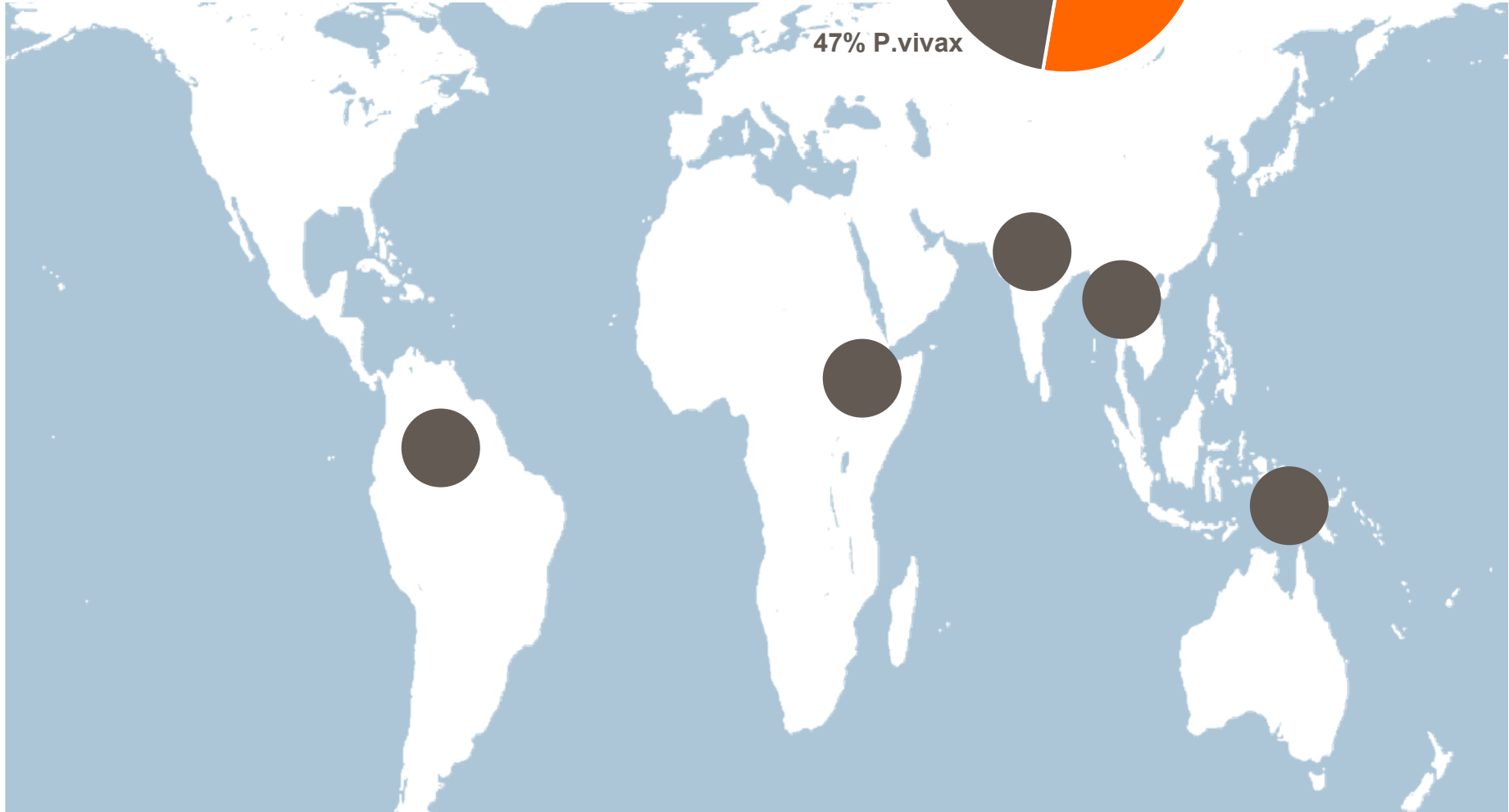


MMV  
Medicines for Malaria Venture

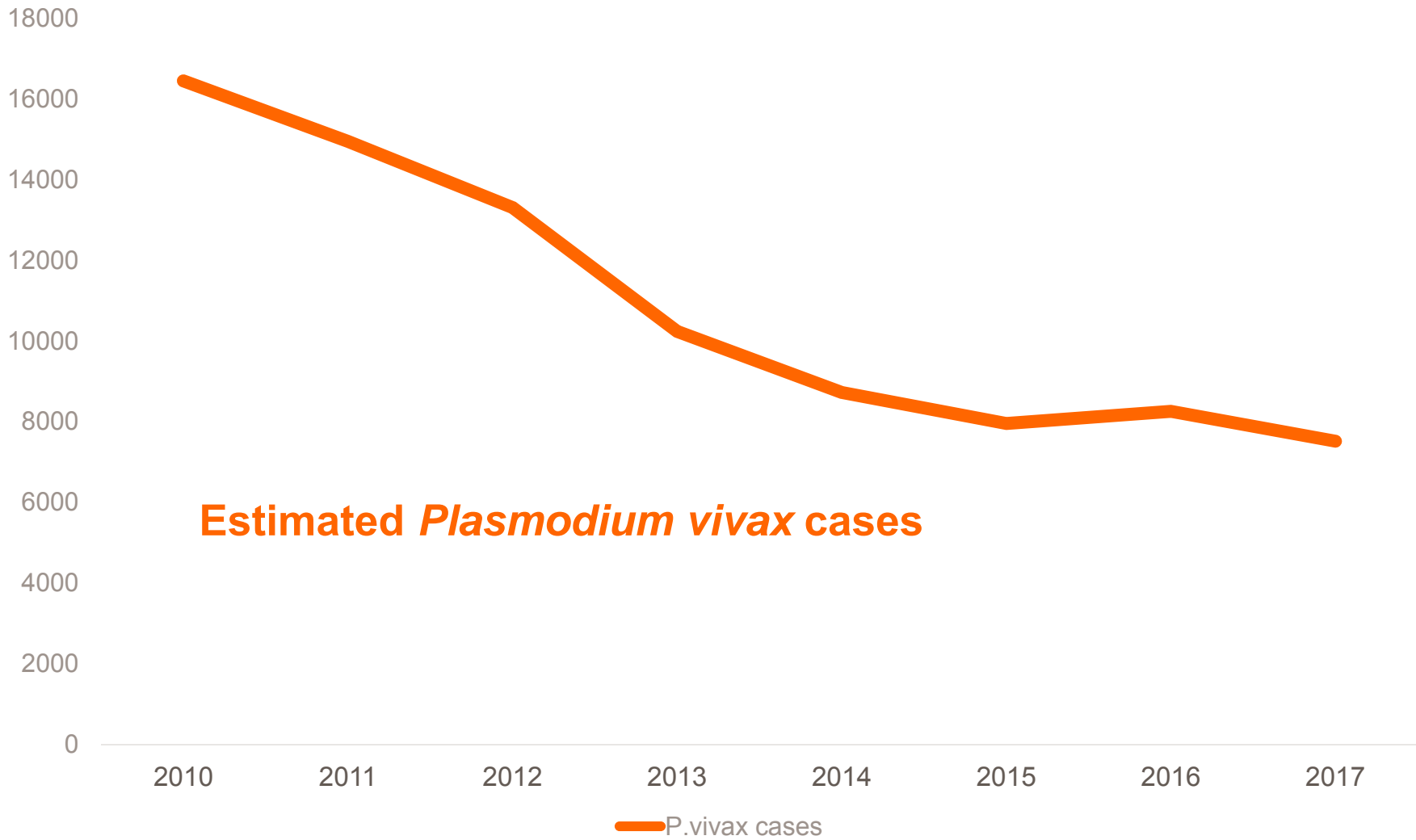


53% non P.vivax

47% P.vivax



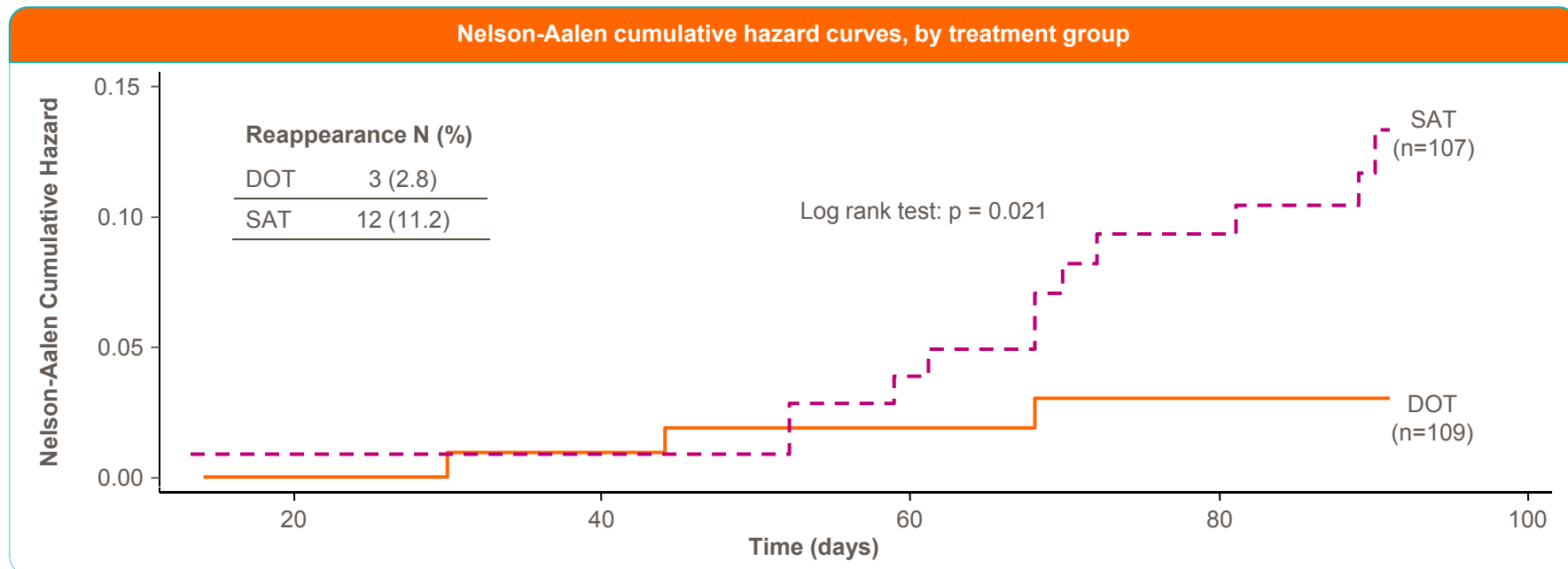
# Progress towards elimination has slowed



# Adherence to PQ is a challenge and negatively affects risk of relapse



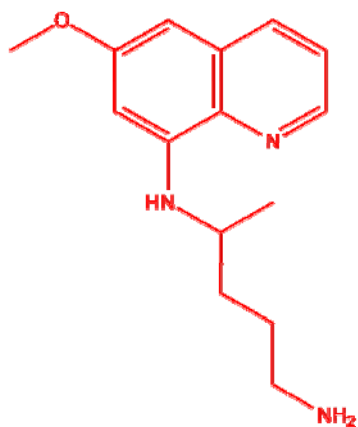
- To achieve a radical cure (cure and prevention of relapse) a 14 day course of primaquine is required
- For those that do receive the 14-day primaquine course there are significant problems with adherence to treatment



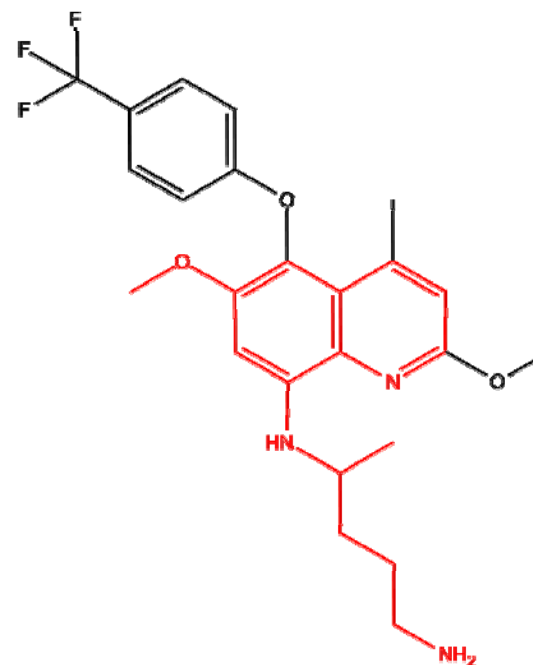
SAT: self administration therapy; DOT: directly observed therapy

# Tafenoquine molecular structure

- Long half-life in man (2–3 weeks)
- Single 300 mg dose

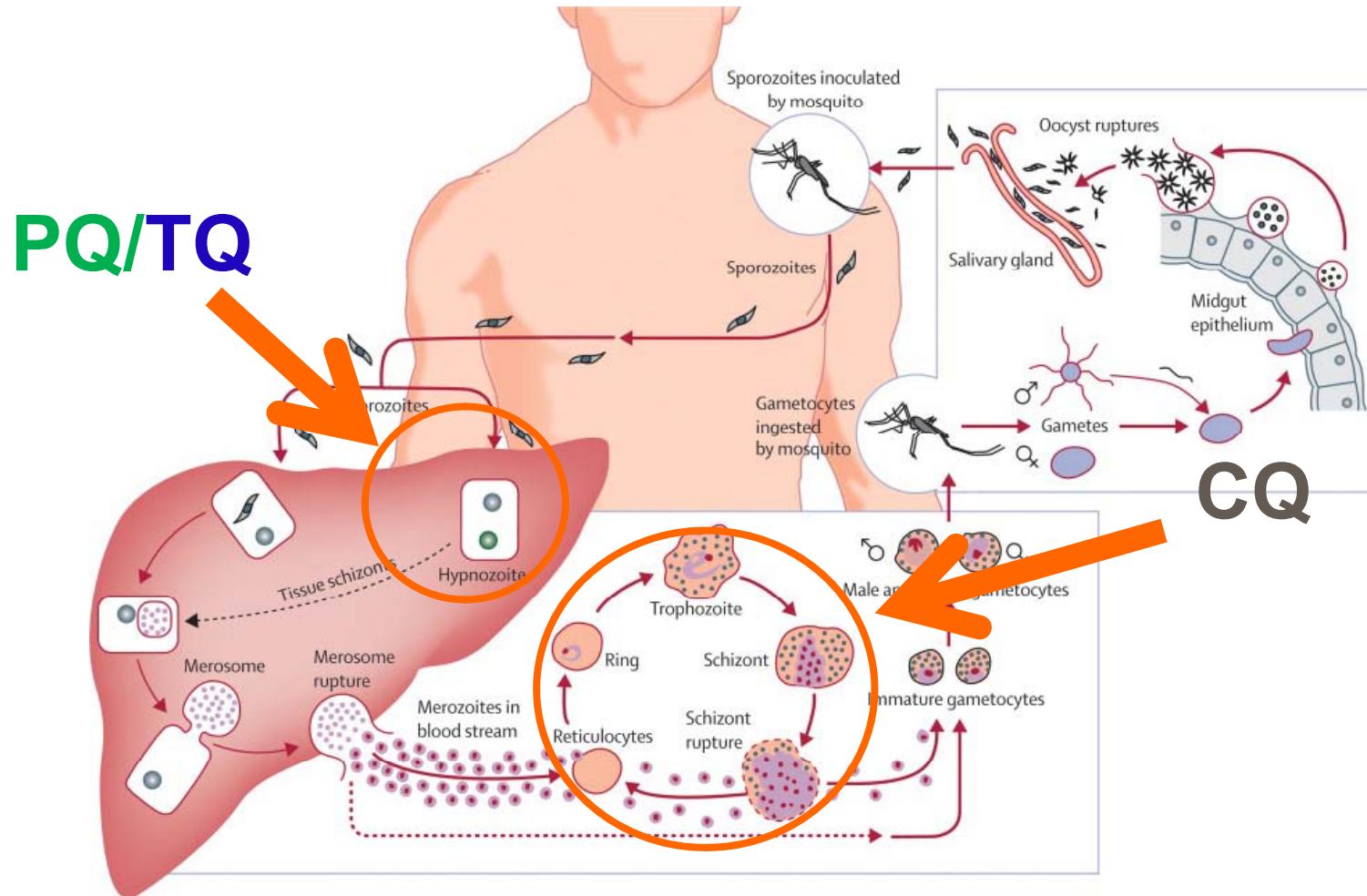


**Primaquine**



**Tafenoquine**

# The primary TQ site of action is the liver

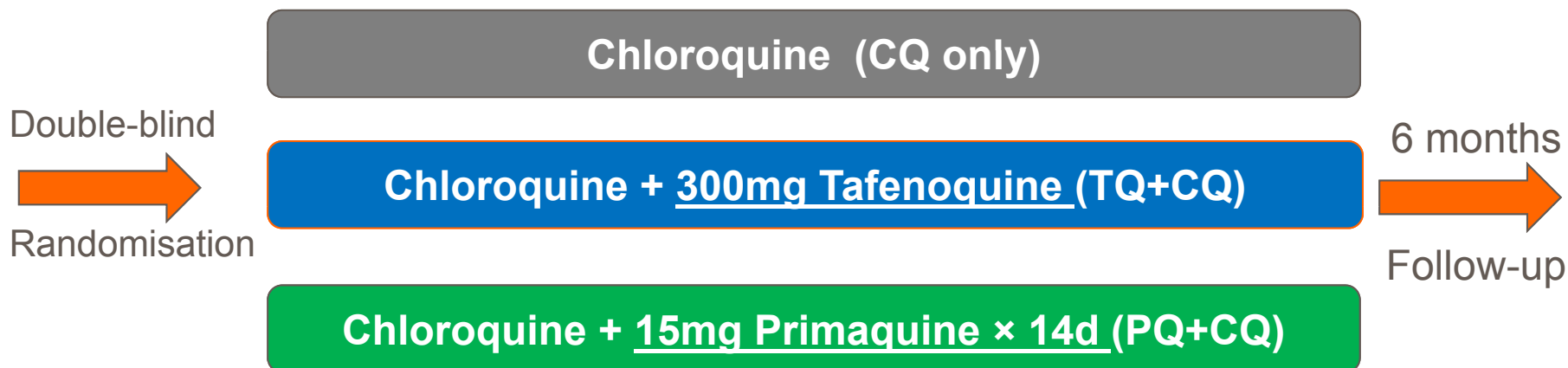




# DETECTIVE part 2: Multi-centre, double-blind, double-dummy, placebo-controlled



MMV  
Medicines for Malaria Venture



Randomisation ratio 1:2:1

Recruitment stopped early at 522/600 subjects following agreement with FDA

# Key Inclusion Criteria

---



MMV   
Medicines for Malaria Venture

- Blood smear *P. vivax* >100 – <100,000 parasites/ $\mu$ L
- Age  $\geq$ 16 years (Ethiopia  $\geq$ 18 years)
- Females of non-childbearing potential or on contraception
- QTcF <450 msec

# Key Exclusion Criteria

---

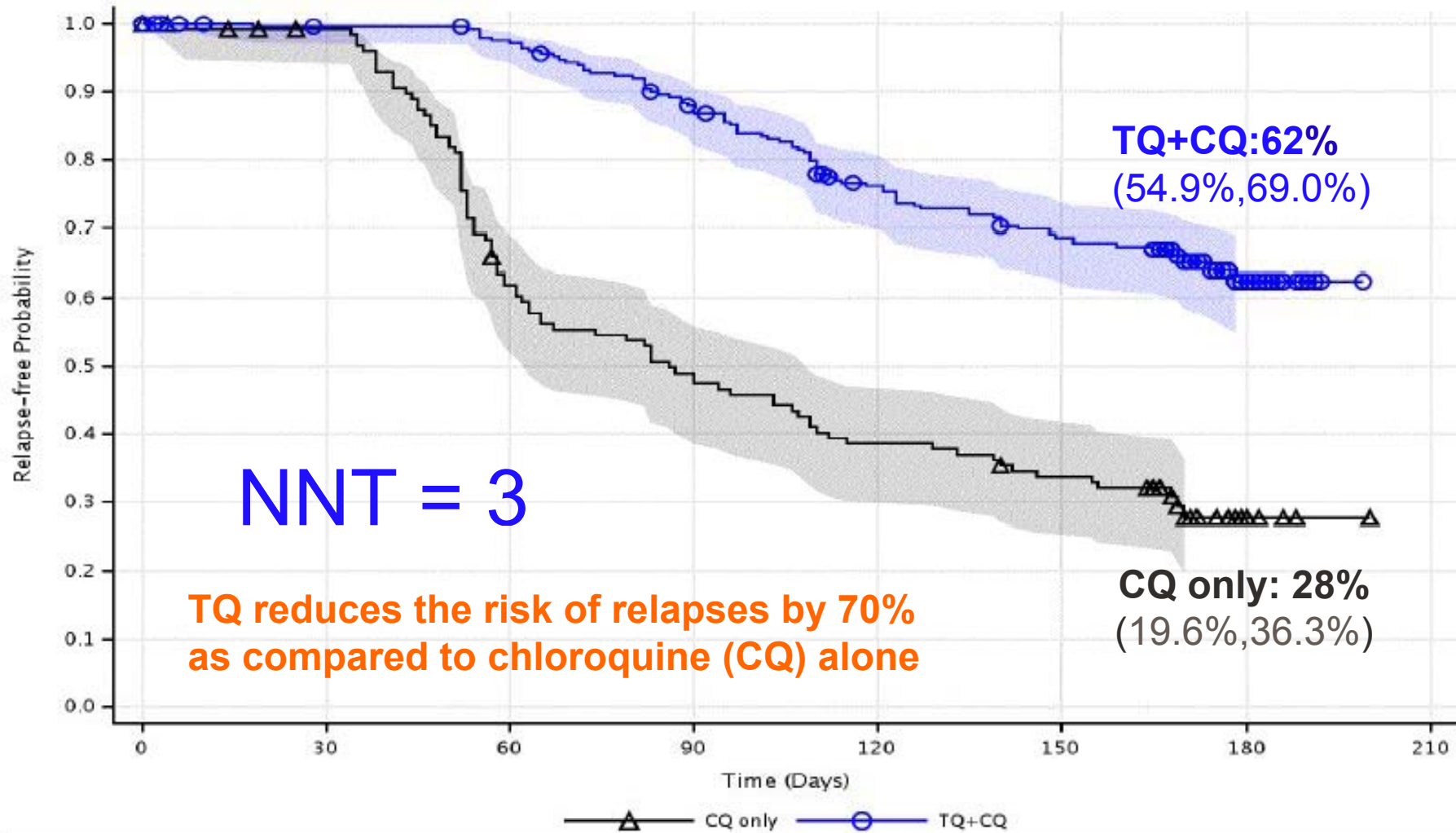


MMV   
Medicines for Malaria Venture

- **Mixed or severe *P. vivax* malaria**
- Severe vomiting
- Screening haemoglobin <7 g/dL
- **G6PD deficient (enzyme level <70% site median)**
- ALT >2×ULN
- Significant concurrent illness
- Anti-malarial treatment within past 30 days
- Allergy or contra-indication to study treatment
- Illicit drug abuse/alcohol excess

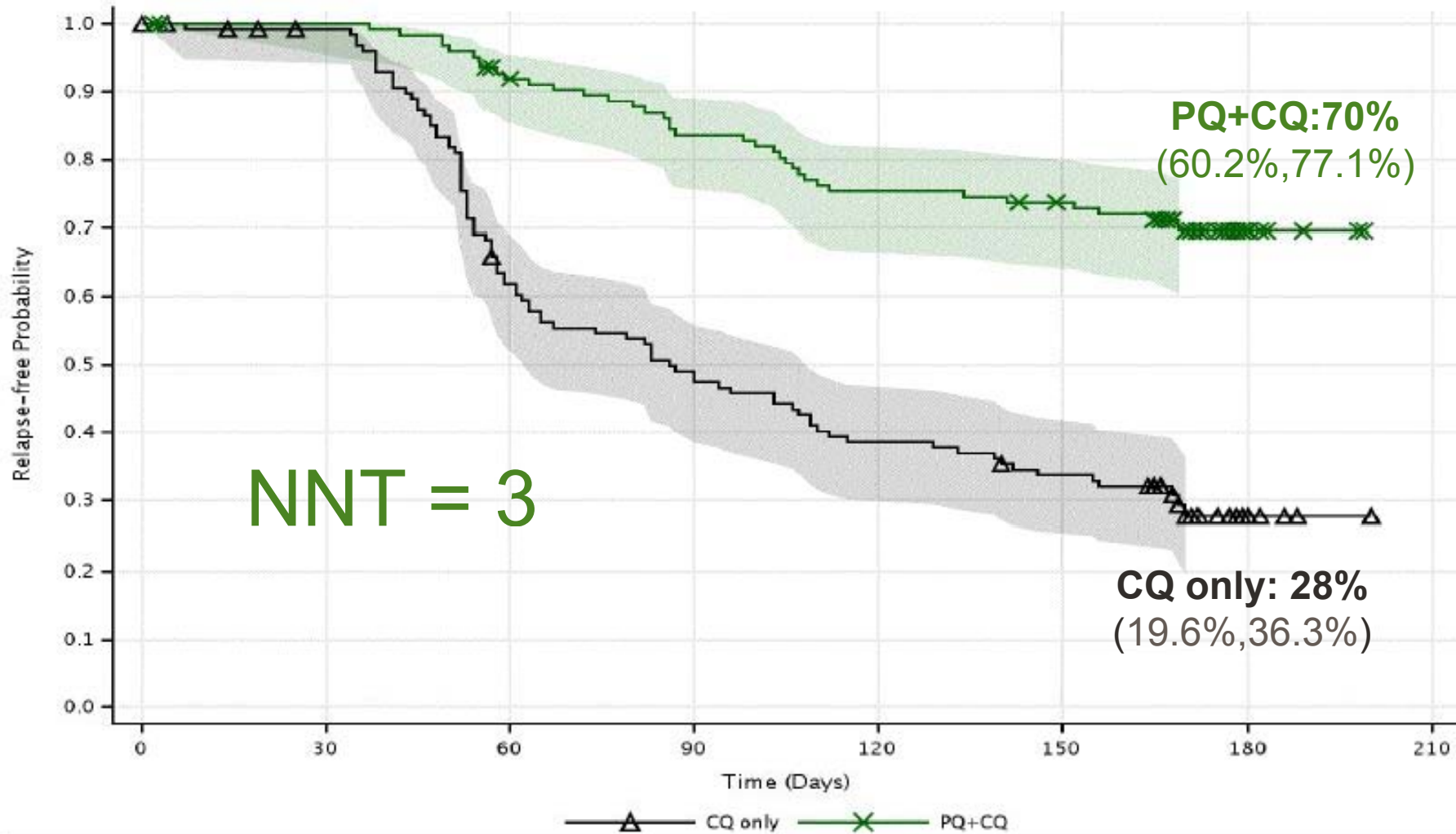
# DETECTIVE part 2

## Relapse-free efficacy 6 months (mITT)



# DETECTIVE part 2

## Relapse-free efficacy 6 months (mITT)



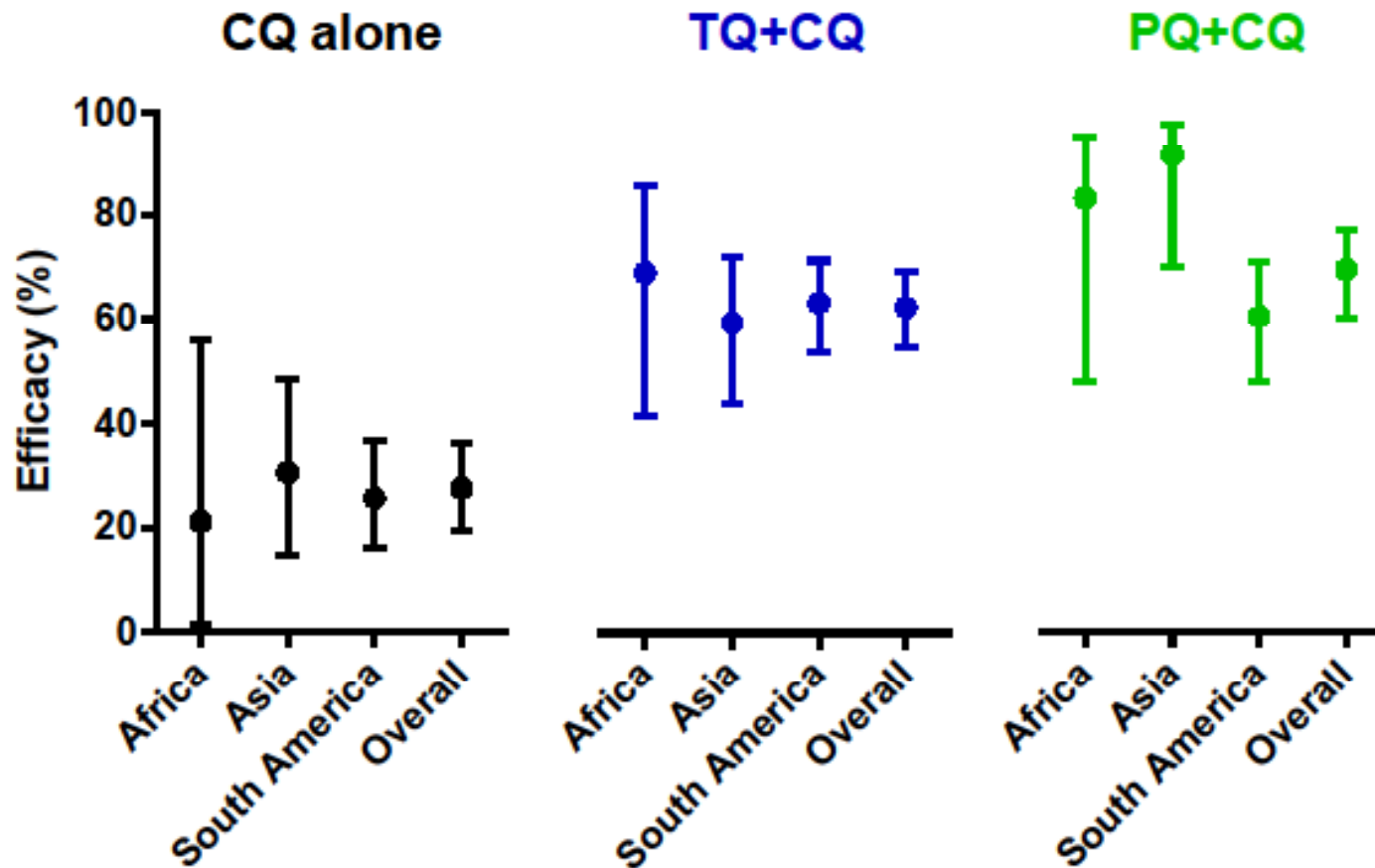
# DETECTIVE part 2

## Relapse-free efficacy 6 months by Region

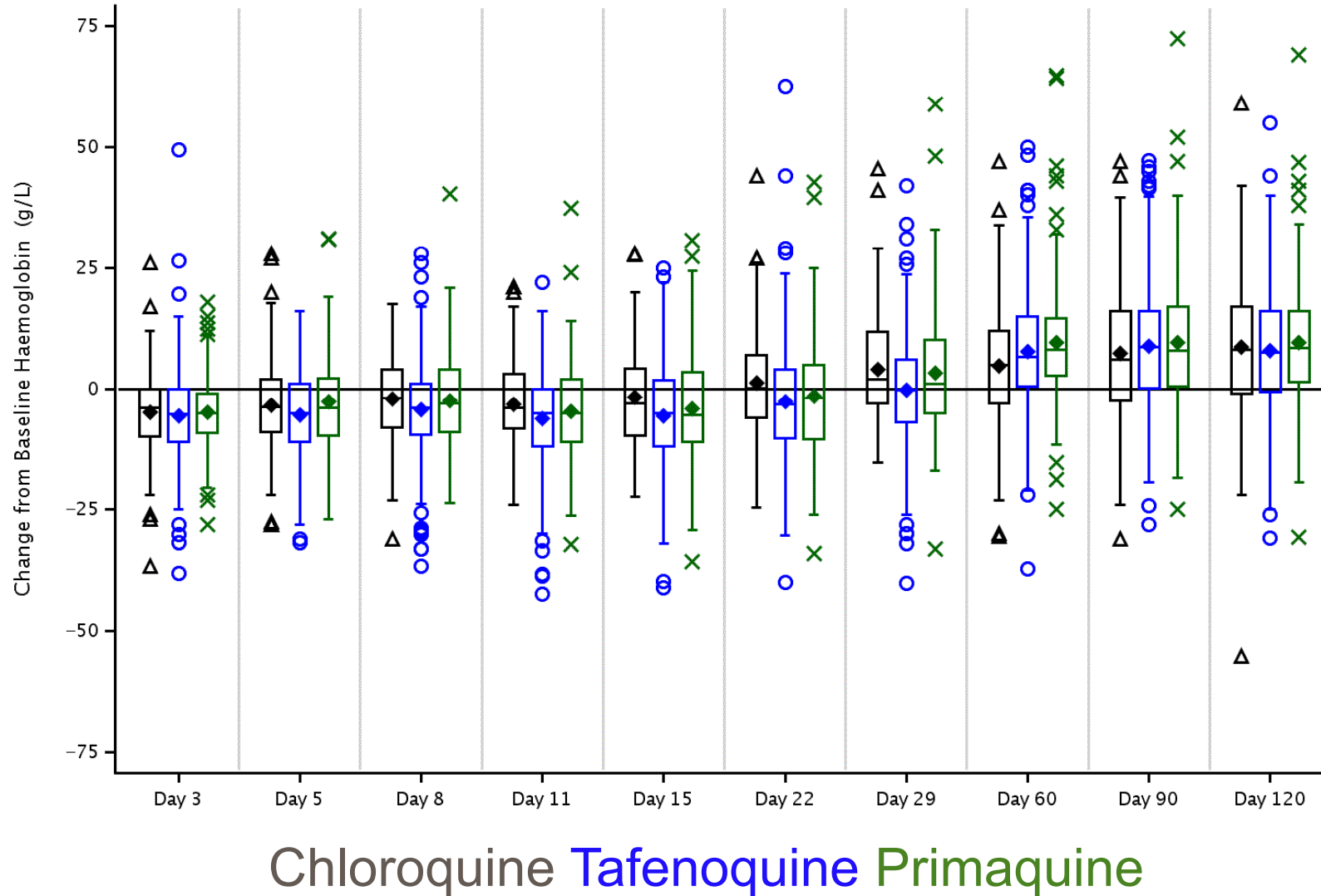


MMV  
Medicines for Malaria Venture

Kaplan Meier Estimates and 95% CI by Treatment



# DETECTIVE part 2 : Change from Baseline Hb balanced across treatment arms



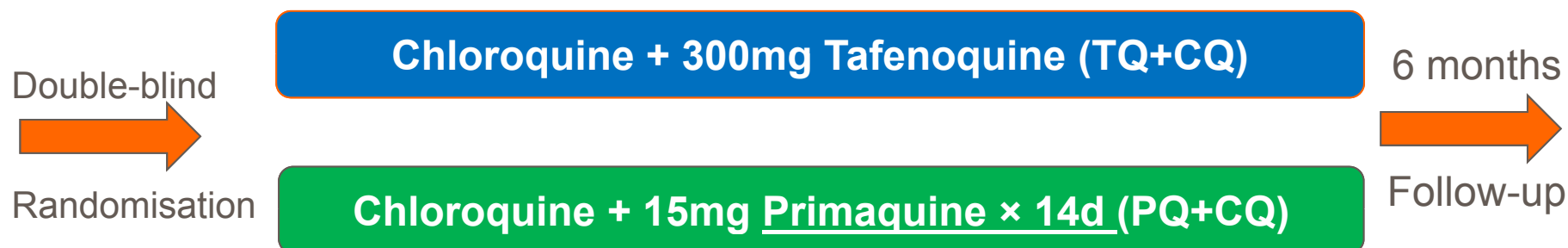
# GATHER Study Design



Total sample size planned was 300 subjects:

- **250 subjects (G6PD activity >70%)**
- 50 females (G6PD activity  $\geq 40\%$ -<70%)

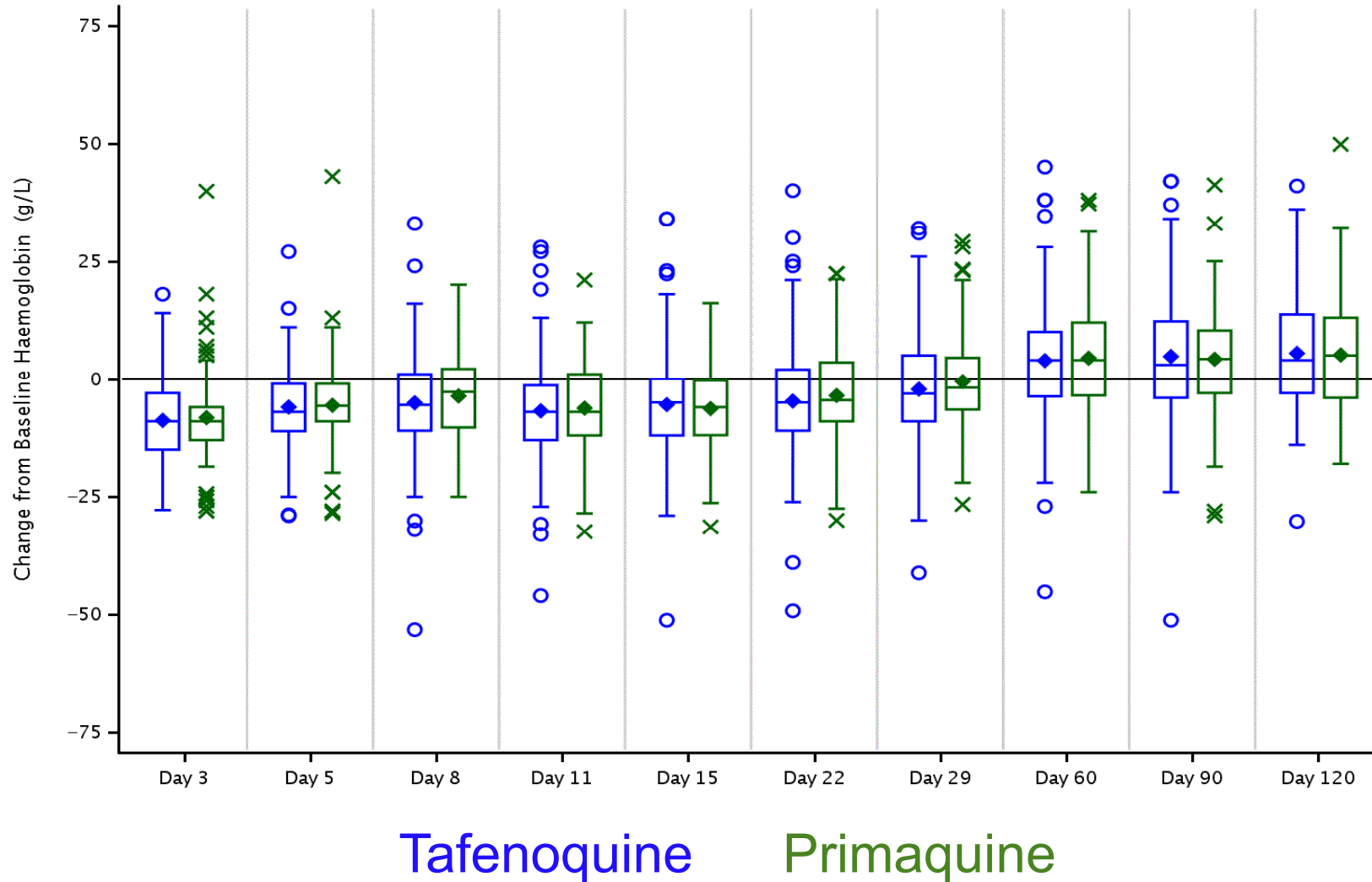
Subjects randomised in ratio 2:1, stratified by G6PD activity



Note: Recruitment into moderate G6PD activity ( $\geq 40\%$ -<70% of site median) continued for additional 6 months. 1/50 female G6PD moderate subject was enrolled.

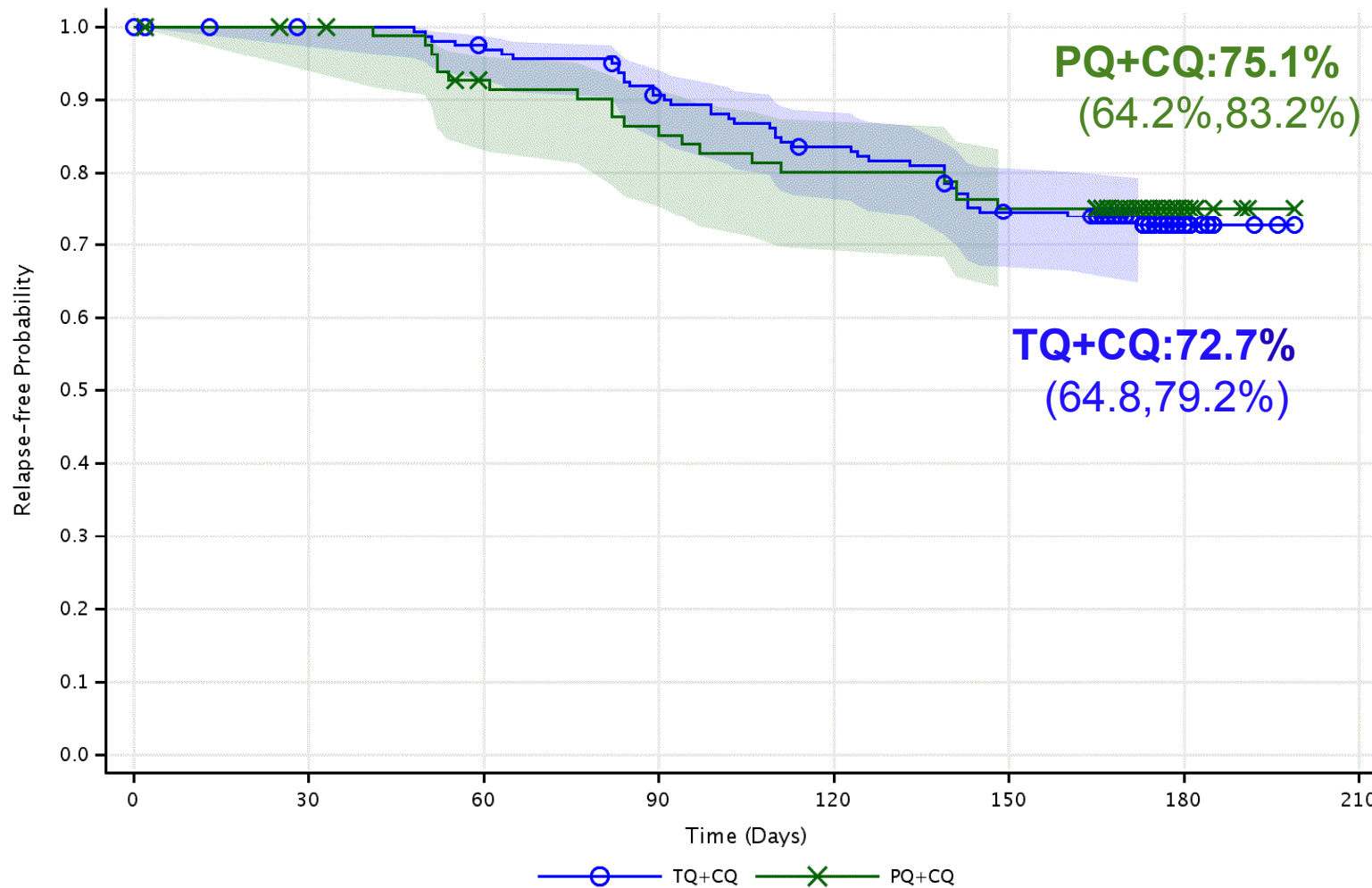


# GATHER Change from Baseline Hb - Consistent with DETECTIVE



# GATHER

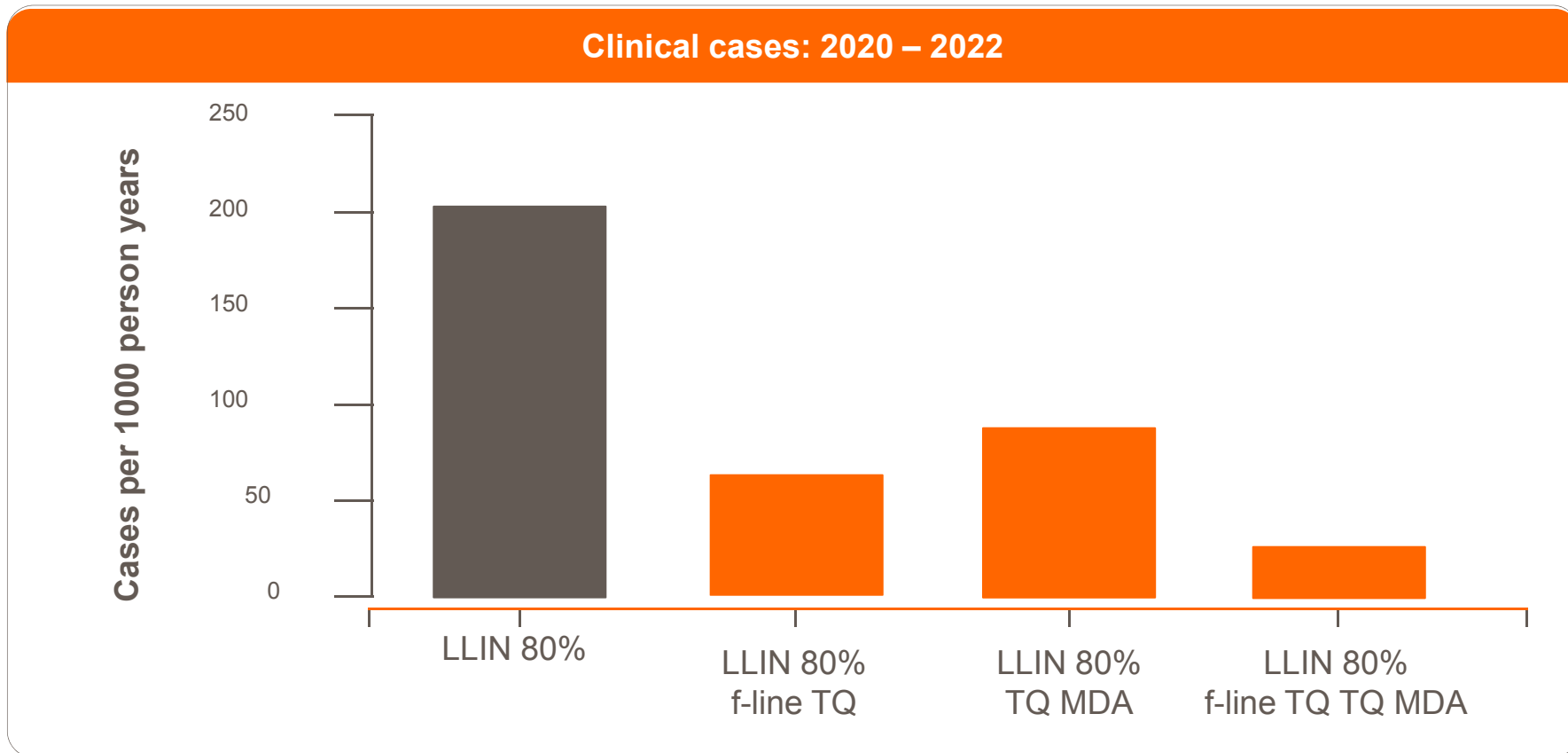
## Relapse-free efficacy 6 months (mITT)



# Large reductions in transmission could be achievable with access to tafenoquine



Model projections of *P. vivax* in high transmission setting province (New Ireland, PNG)

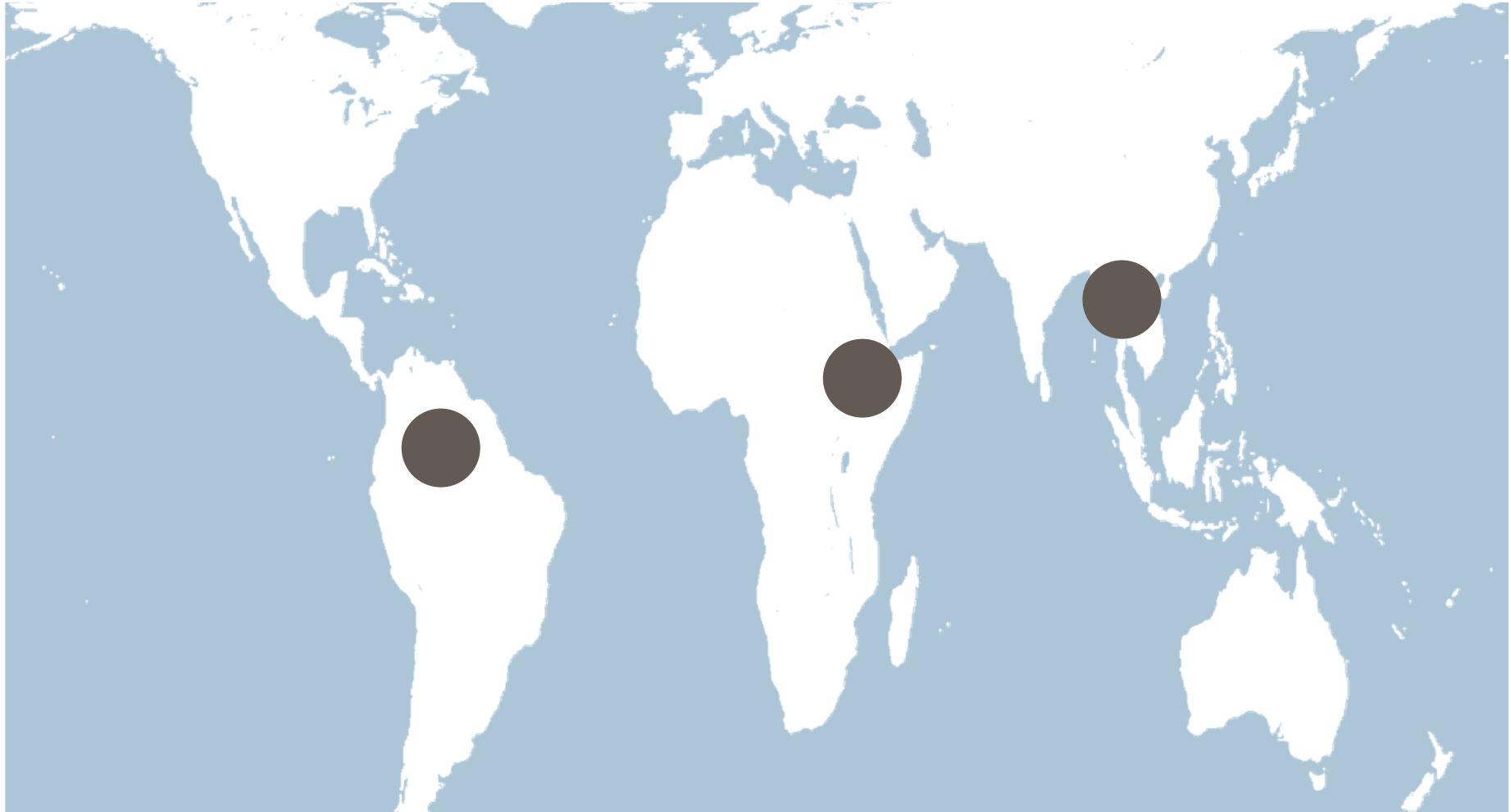


LLIN: Long-lasting insecticidal nets; f-line: front-line; MDA: Mass drug administration; PNG: Papua New Guinea; TQ: Tafenoquine

# Location of Planned Feasibility Studies

## Quantitative G6PD testing plus tafenoquine

---



# Conclusions

---



- A single-dose treatment with the potential to improve patient compliance could positively impact *P. vivax* control and elimination efforts
- TQ reduces the risk of relapses by 70% as compared to chloroquine (CQ) alone
- Feasibility studies will help to inform potential adoption of TQ in other countries affected by *P. vivax* malaria



**Any Questions?**