Malaria Infections in Thailand, North Region: Comparative Diagnosis of Human Malaria Infections Using Microscopy, PCR and LAMP

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Malaria endemicity map of SEA Region Malaria in Northern Thailand **2006 WHO Regional office SEA**





Collaborative Center and Investigation Areas







Comparative detection on the prevalence of *Plasmodium* infections in blood samples collected from N. Thailand

	Microscopy	PCR	LAMP	Any method
P. falciparum	37%	41%	37%	44%
P. vivax	16%	22%	21%	24%

Differences statistically not significant



Loop-mediated Isothermal Amplification (LAMP)

Nucleic acid amplification method developed by Notomi et al (2000) at Eiken

Chemical Co. Ltd, Japan.

Simple Single step isothermal amplification and visual detection of amplified products

Rapid Final test results within 15-60 minutes

Specific and Sensitive

Use of 4 or 6 primers recognizing 6 or 8 distinct regions on the target

Cost effective

No special reagents and sophisticated equipment is required

Amplified products

Extremely large amount (10⁹-10¹⁰ times within 15-60 minutes)

Amplification of RNA

Single step isothermal amplification of RNA by just adding reverse transcriptase

LAMP specificity for *Plasmodium*

Table 5: Specificity of LAMP shown by using DNA of different Protozoan.		
DNA	Result	
Plasmodium falciparum (FCR-3 strain)	+	
P. berghei (ANKA strain)	+	
P. vivax (Thai isolate)	+	
Cryptosporidium (bovine genotype 2, Tokachi	-	
isolate)		
Trypanosoma cruzi (Tulahmen strain)	-	
T. brucei gambiense (IL2343)	-	
(+):positive		
(-): negative		

Detailed comparison: LM, PCR, LAMP Malaria Investigations in Chiang Mai

Parasite(s) detected by each method (no. of samples) ^a			
Nested PCR	Microscopy	LAMP	
P. falciparum (50) ^b	P. falciparum (42)	P. falciparum (42)	
	<u>negative (6)</u>	<u>negative (4) ^cP. falciparum (2)</u>	
	<u>P. vivax (2)</u>	<u>P. falciparum (2)</u>	
P. vivax (20)	<i>P. vivax</i> (14)	P. vivax (14)	
	Negative (2)	<i>P. vivax</i> (2)	
	P. falciparum (4)	P. vivax (4)	
P. falciparum + P. vivax (3)	P. falciparum (2)	P. falciparum + P. vivax (1) ,	
	P. vivax (1)	P. falciparum (1)	
	* *	P. vivax (1) $^{\circ}$	
Negative (32)	Negative (32)	Negative (32)	

a Results that were nonconcordant between microscopy and LAMP are underlined b Each row provides the result obtained with identical DNA samples c DNA of these samples probably underwent degradation since nested PCR yielded concordant results to LAMP, when samples were retested 2 months after extraction, at the same time when LAMP was carried out.

Clinical sensitivity and specificity of three methods

Species	Method	Specificity	Sensitivity
Pf	LAMP	100%	91% (100%) ^a
	Microscopy	100%	91%
Pv	LAMP	100%	99%
Microscopy 98% 65%			65%
^a Sensitivity calculated by including the results of 5 samples that yielded distinct results			
when they were retested by nPCR in Japan.			

LAMP: threshold time using DNA from different life cycle stages of *Plasmodium* species

Tab.1: Threshold time (Tt) of four *Plasmodium* life stages using *Plasmodium* genus specific LAMP, each sample containing a DNA concentration of 10ng/µl.

Plasmodium species and stage	Threshold time (min) (mean of 3 tests)
P. falciparum, mixed stages ¹⁾	28:16
P. falciparum, trophozoites	30:56
P. falciparum, schizonts	29:52
P. berghei, mixed stages ²⁾	38:34
P. berghei, sporozoites	45:30

1) trophozoites, schizonts and merozoites

²⁾ not known which stages

Multiplex LAMP

For the diagnosis of *P.* falciparum and *P. vivax* infections

Determination of best concentration of PEI for *Plasmodium* multiplex LAMP



THANK YOU

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