

Test	Malarial Parasites
Common Abbreviations	MP
Profile	MP with a FBC, Reticulocyte count and Blood Film
Clinical indication	Malaria is transmitted via mosquitoes in Malaria Countries. Likely affected persons will be those who have travelled from, to or through malaria affected areas. Thick and thin films are prepared and examined morphologically for the presence of malaria parasites and possible sub-species. All films are second checked by a BMS. A Rapid Detection Test is performed with all new malaria requests.
Specimen type	Whole Blood
Sample type	EDTA Adult: Purple top EDTA Paediatric: Purple top EDTA
Minimum volume	Adult: 4ml Paediatric: 1.3ml
Special precautions	None
Stability	24 hours
Turn-around time	Urgent: 2 hours Routine: 6 hours
Laboratory	HRI: 24/7
Referral Laboratory	Any positive malaria screens are referred to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine for confirmation and species identification
Reference interval	Qualitative
Limitations	A single test where no parasites are detected cannot rule out malaria. Always repeat for confirmation, especially if clinical symptoms persist

Additional Information

- Please state which country the patient has travelled to
- If it is a pre-occupational screen, please state clearly on the request form
- A G6PD screen will be performed on all positive cases

List of additional tests that can be added to original sample with time limits for requesting:

- Reticulocytes – within 24 hours
- Haemoglobinopathy investigations (ABH) – within 48 hours.
- Glandular Fever screen (GF)– within 12 hours.

Service: SHYPS/Haematology/ Hull Site

Filename: HA/UI/HU-11

Version: 01

Date of Issue: May 2024

Owner: Samantha Smith

Page 2 of 2



- G6PD screening test – 24 hours
- Direct Antiglobulin Test (DAT) – within 48 hours
- Haemoglobin A1c (HBA1) – within 48 hours