

Malaria update

Malaria in the ADF

Seven cases of malaria in ADF personnel were reported to the Central Malaria Register in the period 1 July – 31 December 2004.

One case was diagnosed on return to Australia from East Timor.

Three cases were diagnosed on return to Australia from the Solomon Islands. One of these was a relapse of a previously acquired infection.

Three cases were acquired in mainland Papua New Guinea.

Total malaria infections in ADF personnel in various deployments

East Timor, September 1999 – December 2004

Diagnosed in East Timor	82
Diagnosed on return to Australia	388
Total	470

Solomon Islands, July 2003 – December 2004

Diagnosed in Solomon Islands	0
Diagnosed on return to Australia	12
Total	12

Iraq, February 2003 – December 2004

Diagnosed in Iraq*	1
Diagnosed on return to Australia	0
Total	1

*This case appeared to be an infection acquired in Papua New Guinea before deployment to Iraq.

Major Nathan Elmes

Research Medical Officer, Army Malaria Institute

Malaria reporting

All Health Service personnel are encouraged to notify the Central Malaria Registry promptly when a malaria casualty is detected. Informal notifications preceding a PM40 can be made by telephone (07) 3332 4836 or by email Nathan.Elmes@defence.gov.au