Malaria

Worldwide, malaria is one of the most devastating of the communicable diseases, causing perhaps 1 million to 2 million deaths annually, not to mention an enormous burden of disability and medical costs. While transmission has not been documented in Oregon for decades, malaria is reported every year in our state; all cases have resulted from exposures outside the United States. Competent anopheline mosquitoes are resident in Oregon, so limited local transmission remains a remote possibility. Oregon rates are similar to the national average. Oregon surveillance data contribute to the national database, which is used to tailor recommendations for prophylaxis and treatment. In 2010, 16 cases were reported, up from four in 2009. Eleven were *Plasmodium falciparum* (the worst kind to have, and the most common worldwide).
Incidence of malaria by age and sex: Oregon, 2000–2010

Incidence of malaria: Oregon vs. nationwide, 1995–2010
Malaria cases by continent of acquisition: Oregon, 2010

- Africa: 69%
- Central/South America: 15%
- Asia: 8%
- Caribbean: 8%