A medicinal chemistry perspective on the search for novel antimalarials through phenotypic screening

Abstract: Combating Malaria is still clearly required. According to last WHO report more 200 million cases of malaria and more 600,000 deaths were reported. Emerging resistance to current front-line treatment -ACTs, Artemisinin Combination Therapies- is increasing in endemic countries. Therefore, there is an urgency for new therapies based on novel modes of action, which are able to relieve symptoms as fast as the artemisinins, as well as new therapies to block malaria transmission.

A decade ago, the antimalarial community focused their efforts on phenotypic screenings as the most pragmatic approach to identify new antimalarial drugs able to cure blood stage clinical disease. During this presentation, the challenges, opportunities and learnings found during a decade of medicinal chemistry efforts at GSK in this topic will be discussed.

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Mani L. Bhaumik Collaboratory - YH 4222
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