

5. Title: Field Trial of DDS plus Chloroquine Primaquine as Malaria Prophylaxis.

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Objective:

To evaluate the efficacy of 4-4' - diamino-diphenyl-sulfone (DDS) in combination with standard chloroquine-primaquine in the prevention of malaria in U.S. Army personnel.

Description:

Company C of the 538 Engineer Bn., currently camped and working in a malarious area south of Korat, was selected for this study. Personnel of the company are assigned to control or study group within the company based on ASN terminal digit. The study group receives, in addition to the weekly routine standard chloroquine primaquine tablet, a 25 mgm DDS tablet daily. The control group receives, in addition to the chloroquine primaquine, a daily placebo tablet, identical to the DDS tablets. Thick and thin blood films were obtained from each man prior to entry into the study, and at monthly intervals thereafter. Films are stained with Giemsa and examined at SMRL. In addition, dispensary personnel obtain similar films, in duplicate, from each individual reporting on sick call with history of fever, headache, backache or diarrhea. Sick call smears are forwarded in duplicate to 31st Field Hospital for staining; one slide is read there and retained, one sent to SMRL for examination. All patients with parasitemia are referred to the battalion surgeon for appropriate treatment, and removed from this study. Records are kept of number of patients with parasitemia and / or clinical malaria, and will be used for evaluation of the study. Evaluation will be done at the completion of malaria season in the area, or on re-deployment of the company, whichever occurs sooner.

Progress:

Thus far no cases of clinical malaria of overt parasitemia have occurred in the company, however the rainy season, and presumably increased malaria transmission, will not occur until May.

Summary:

A comparison of a regimen of DDS plus chloroquine - primaquine with placebo plus chloroquine - primaquine is being carried out in a company of US Army engineers engaged in a construction project in a highly malarious area of Thailand.

Notes

- 1 (Preventive Medicine Officer, 9th Logistical Command (B))
- 2 (Surgeon, 583 Engineer Bn.)
- 3 (Pvnt. Med. Officer, 538 Engineer Bn.)