

BIOL 485

In-class discussion questions for Aug. 14, 2013 based on PubMed ID 17336652

Prepared by Kristi Dela Cruz, Lesley Hammond, and Michael Lam

1. Using the vaccine trial article from July 1<sup>st</sup> (PubMed ID: 23136909), prior knowledge, and other sources: Compare and contrast the overall development process or methodology of drug trials and vaccine trials? What stages or aspects within make the development of one more difficult than the other?
2. Drug combinations are the state of the art for malaria treatment. However, how do pharmacokinetics (half-life) and the efficacy of antimalarial drugs affect which drugs should be paired with which?
3. According to the article, *P. falciparum* has been studied for over 40 years whereas *P. vivax* has not had much attention, yet *P. falciparum* has evolved faster in terms of drug resistance in SE Asia. What are underlying factors that contribute to the drug resistance and what can be done in making sure that *P. vivax* does not build up resistance to antimalarials like *P. falciparum*?