

Beat: Health

Mobile Phones Used to Track Malaria Transmission Patterns

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USPA News - Scientists are studying the use of mobile phones to track patterns of malaria transmission in endemic nations. The research is part of an effort by many countries to control or eliminate the mosquito-borne disease.

On their own, malaria-carrying mosquitoes can't travel very far. But the insects that are responsible for nearly one million deaths around the world each year can, and do, hitch rides in the belongings of people who travel. Malaria can also be transmitted to healthy individuals by asymptomatic people who venture from an area where many people are sick with the disease, to a location, such as a city, where residents are seldom exposed to malarial mosquitoes. Such is the case in Kenya, where researchers have determined the disease primarily spreads east from the country's Lake Victoria region toward Nairobi with people who travel to the country's capital. Their finding is based on an analysis of the mobile phone data of 15 million Kenyan subscribers, by researchers at Harvard University's School of Public Health in Boston, Massachusetts. Kenya has a population of 43 million people.

Article online:

<https://www.uspa24.com/bericht-59/mobile-phones-used-to-track-malaria-transmission-patterns.html>

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