

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Assessing the burden of pregnancy associated malaria under changing transmission settings

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Steady state under stable disease transmission ($\lambda_s=0$)

Assuming a constant birth rate B , stable transmission ($\lambda_s=0$) and ignoring other demographic factors, system (1) converges towards a steady-state equilibrium given by:

$$\begin{aligned} G := N_0 &= \frac{B}{m + \mu}, \quad N_i = mc^{i-1} \left(\frac{1-\lambda}{c + \mu} \right)^i N_0, \\ R_i &= \frac{cm\lambda(1-\alpha)}{c + \mu} \sum_{j=0..i} \left(\frac{c}{c + \mu} \right)^{i-j} N_j, \quad P = \frac{c}{\mu} (R_H + (1-\alpha\lambda)N_H), \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where capital letters denote equilibrium values. Within this framework we define excess morbidity, E , simply by the rate pregnant women move out of the susceptible classes g and n_i multiplied by the probability of contracting PAM, λ ; that is

$$E = E_p + E_M \quad \text{with} \quad E_p = m\lambda G, \quad E_M = \sum_{i=1..H} E_i = \sum_{i=1..H} c\lambda N_i \quad (3)$$

where E_p and E_M denote excess morbidity of the primi- and multigravidae classes, respectively.

Maximum in excess morbidity in the multigravidae classes

From Figure 5 (main text) it is clear that the excess morbidity within the multigravidae class assumes a local maximum. From (3) and (4) we find E_i^{\max} exactly when:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} E_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} (c\lambda N_i) = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \lambda_i^{\max} = \frac{1}{1+i}. \quad (4)$$

($\lambda = 0$ and $\lambda = 1$ are the local minima.) This means that the highest impact of PAM on senior gravid women occurs at lower levels of transmission than on women in earlier pregnancies. And because E_i^{\max} is a decreasing function in i , the total excess in morbidity from multigravidae, $E_M^{\max} \left(= \sum_{i=1..H} E_i^{\max} \right)$, is observed at intermediate levels of transmission intensity. Unfortunately, the exact value of λ^{\max} requires solving a polynomial of degree H but we can find a good approximation in:

$$\lambda^{\max} \approx \sum_{i=1..H} a^i \lambda_i^{\max} / \sum_{i=1..H} a^i, \quad (5)$$

with $a = c/c + \mu$. As such, λ^{\max} depends on the average number of pregnancies per female, H , and, to a smaller degree, on the duration of the period between consecutive pregnancies, c . Therefore, as the lifetime number of pregnancies increases, the maximum impact of PAM induced excess morbidity occurs at lower transmission intensities.