Appendix SI

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SI-I: Description of the basic model

We construct a compartmental model $(1, 2)$ that couples host and vector dynamics. Mosquitos are assumed to be in one of two states: susceptible to infection (*MS*) or infectious (*MI*), and the size of the vector population is determined as a function of rainfall $(\lambda_{rainfall})$, while mosquito mortality is assumed to be constant (μ_M) .

In the human host population we distinguish between young children under the age of 5 and older children and adults $(1/k = 5yrs (3))$. We assume that older children and adults gain partial protective immunity following exposure to infection (4-6). This immunity is incomplete in that recovered hosts are still susceptible to future infections, and hence infectious to mosquitoes, but is protective in that it provides resistance from experiencing clinical symptoms. However, these protective effects of immunity are short lasting, and with insufficient re-exposure boosting this immunity, the protection wanes and host can become fully susceptible to clinical illness again after several years. There is therefore a direct dependency between morbidity and the history of infection.

For young children, we consider two possible states: fully susceptible to disease (*J*) and clinically infected (I_J) , and for the rest of the host population we consider four possible states: fully susceptible (*S*), clinically infected (*IS*), recovered with protective immunity (*R*), and asymptomatically infected (I_R) . On average hosts with clinical illness $(I_J$ and $I_S)$ clear infection within $1/\sigma$ days, after which children return to their susceptibility state (*J*), while the rest of the host population gains short-term protective immunity (*R*). This short-term protection lasts on average 1/*δ* years, after which hosts return to being susceptible to clinical disease again (*S*). However, if during this period hosts are re-exposed to infection, they experience it asymptomatically (I_R) with an average duration of $1/\sigma_R$ days, after which they return to having protective immunity once again (*R*). Hence, with sufficient re-exposure to infection, hosts can maintain protective immunity to disease indefinitely.

Transmission of infection: Mosquitoes bite human hosts at a constant attack rate (i.e., the total number of bites of a particular mosquito per unit time). Following a biting event, the probability that a susceptible mosquito becomes infected depends both on the rate of contact between susceptible mosquitos to infected hosts (i.e., the levels of M_S , I_J , I_S and I_R), and on the probability of successful transition from host to mosquito (τ_{HM}) (see Figure SI-I-1).

Figure SI-I-1: A sketch of the transmission pathways of infection from: i) infected mosquitos (M_I) to susceptible hosts (H) as a function of τ_{MH} , and from *ii*) infected hosts (I_H) to susceptible mosquitos (M_S) as a function of τ_{HM} . Infected mosquitoes (M_l) remain carriers for life, while infected humans clear infection after a mean period of $1/\sigma$ days. Replenishment of the susceptible vector population is determined as a function of rainfall, while the birth rate of the human population remains constant in size. Mosquito mortality and mortality of the susceptible human population are both constant (μ_M and μ_H , respectively), while symptomatic infection in humans may lead to disease-induced death $(a > \mu_H)$.

SI-II: A generalized version of the model with multiple age groups

The generalized model explicitly incorporates multiple-age groups indexed from $i = [1, \ldots, n]$. Hosts in age group *i* pass to age group $i+1$ at a rate $\kappa_{i,i+1}$, but these rates are not necessarily identical, such that $\kappa_{i,i+1}$ may be different from $\kappa_{i+1,i+2}$. This allows additional partitioning if particular age ranges of interest, such as young children (among others, for example, this allows incorporation of maternal immunity of very young infants).

In each age group *i*, non-vaccinated hosts are either susceptible to clinical infection, $S(i)$, infected with clinical disease, *I*(*i*), susceptible only to asymptomatic infection, *R*(*i*), or asymptomatically infected, *A*(*i*). Infected hosts *I*(*i*) and *A*(*i*) clear infection at rates $σ_I(*i*)$ and $σ_A(*i*)$, respectively. Following infection, a majority of the hosts gain protective immunity placing them in class $R(i)$, but this protection can wane a rate δ_i , making them susceptible to clinical infection. *S*(*i*), once again. In contrast, we consider the possibility that for some age groups (namely, young children under the age of 5), clinical protection cannot be gained, and following clinical infection, $I(i)$, hosts in these age groups will return to the fully susceptible class, $S(i)$ (see Figure $SI-II-1$).

Figure SI-II-1: A sketch demonstrating the dynamics within an age group i, showing the transition between age classes.

Each age group is vaccinated at a certain, but only hosts that are not infected will transition to a vaccinated state (i.e., classes *S*(*i*) and *R*(*i*) transition to $V_S(i)$ and $V_R(i)$ at rates $v_{S(i)}$ and $v_{R(i)}$, respectively). Depending on the type of vaccine, vaccinated hosts may still be susceptible to infection, moving them to either classes $V_I(i)$ or $V_A(i)$ depending on their immune protection status. In such cases, this may allow them to also gain and/or maintain (boost) their protective immunity even if they did not have any before being vaccinated. We assume that vaccine protection is not life long, and looses its effect at a rate of $\omega(i)$, while the status of immune protection may still be maintained such that $V_S(i)$ transitions back to $S(i)$, and $V_R(i)$ to $R(i)$ (see Figures SI-II-2 and SI-II-3).

Figure SI-II-2: A sketch demonstrating the transition between non-vaccinated hosts to vaccinated ones within a single age group i.

Figure SI-II-3: A sketch demonstrating the general model with transitions between age groups and within age groups.

Model equations:

Non-vaccinated hosts in age group *i* = 1…*n*:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\dot{S}(i) = \mathbf{K}_{S(i)} - \frac{\beta}{N_H} (1 - b + \varepsilon b) \tau_{MH, S(i)} M_I S(i) + (1 - \pi_i) \sigma_{I(i)} I(i) - \nu_{S(i)} S(i) + \omega_{S(i)} V_S(i) + \delta_i R(i) \\
\dot{I}(i) = \mathbf{K}_{I(i)} + \frac{\beta}{N_H} (1 - b + \varepsilon b) \tau_{MH, S(i)} M_I S(i) - \sigma_{I(i)} I(i) \\
\dot{R}(i) = \mathbf{K}_{R(i)} - \frac{\beta}{N_H} (1 - b + \varepsilon b) \tau_{MH, R(i)} M_I R(i) + \pi_i \sigma_{I(i)} I(i) + \sigma_{A(i)} A(i) - \nu_{R(i)} R(i) + \omega_{R(i)} V_R(i) - \delta_i R(i) \\
\dot{A}(i) = \mathbf{K}_{A(i)} + \frac{\beta}{N_H} (1 - b + \varepsilon b) \tau_{MH, R(i)} M_I R(i) - \sigma_{A(i)} A(i)\n\end{cases}
$$

Vaccinated hosts in age group $i = 1...n$:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\dot{V}_{s}(i) = \mathbf{K}_{V_{s}(i)} - \frac{\beta}{N_{H}} (1 - b + \varepsilon b) \tau_{M H, V_{s}(i)} M_{I} V_{s}(i) + \nu_{s(i)} S(i) - \omega_{s(i)} V_{s}(i) + \delta_{i} V_{R}(i) \\
\dot{V}_{I}(i) = \mathbf{K}_{V_{I}(i)} + \frac{\beta}{N_{H}} (1 - b + \varepsilon b) \tau_{M H, V_{s}(i)} M_{I} V_{s}(i) - \sigma_{I(i)} V_{I}(i) \\
\dot{V}_{R}(i) = \mathbf{K}_{V_{R}(i)} - \frac{\beta}{N_{H}} (1 - b + \varepsilon b) \tau_{M H, V_{R}(i)} M_{I} V_{R}(i) + \sigma_{I(i)} V_{I}(i) + \sigma_{A(i)} V_{A}(i) + \nu_{R(i)} R(i) - \omega_{R(i)} V_{R}(i) - \delta_{i} V_{R}(i) \\
\dot{V}_{A}(i) = \mathbf{K}_{V_{A}(i)} + \frac{\beta}{N_{H}} (1 - b + \varepsilon b) \tau_{M H, V_{R}(i)} M_{I} V_{R}(i) - \sigma_{A(i)} V_{A}(i)\n\end{cases}
$$

Vector population:

$$
\begin{cases}\n\dot{M}_S = B_M - \left(\mu_M + \zeta \beta b (1 - \varepsilon)\right) M_S - \frac{\beta}{N_H} (1 - b + \varepsilon b) M_S \sum_{j \in \{I, A, V_I, V_A\}} \sum_{i=1}^n j(i) \tau_{HM, j(i)} \\
\dot{M}_I = -\left(\mu_M + \zeta \beta b (1 - \varepsilon)\right) M_I + \frac{\beta}{N_H} (1 - b + \varepsilon b) M_S \sum_{j \in \{I, A, V_I, V_A\}} \sum_{i=1}^n j(i) \tau_{HM, j(i)}\n\end{cases}
$$

Where:

$$
\begin{cases}\nif \ i = 1: \ K_{s(1)} = B_H - S(1) \Big(\kappa_{1,2} + \alpha_{s(1)} \Big) \ and \ K_{j(1)} = -j(1) \Big(\kappa_{1,2} + \alpha_{j(i)} \Big) \qquad [j = I, R, A, V_s, V_I, V_R, V_A] \\
if \ i = 2, \dots, n-1: \ K_{j(i)} = j(i-1) \kappa_{i-1,i} - j(i) \Big(\kappa_{i,i+1} + \alpha_{j(i)} \Big) \qquad [j = S, I, R, A, V_s, V_I, V_R, V_A] \\
if \ i = n: \ K_{j(n)} = j(n-1) \kappa_{n-1,n} - j(n) \alpha_{j(n-1)} \qquad [j = S, I, R, A, V_s, V_I, V_R, V_A]\n\end{cases}
$$

Parameter definitions:

SI-III: Intervention: Bednets

In our model we assume a certain fraction of the host population use bednets as a means of protection from mosquito bites. We note as *b* corresponding to the product of bednet efficiency and the proportion of the host population using bednets (*b* ranges from 0 to 1). Hence the rate at which a mosquito bites a non-protected host is: $\beta(1+\epsilon b/(1-b))/N$, where *N* is the total number of hosts, and *ε* represents the "efficiency" of mosquitoes to target non protected hosts in contrast to protected ones. Bednets are commonly treated with a repellant, in which case this would be equivalent to setting $\varepsilon > 0$. In our model, this coefficient, ε , is expressed by a Type-II functional response (17) of mosquito foraging, determining the extent to which the mosquito population can successfully locate available blood meals. For $\varepsilon = 0$, mosquitoes invest equal effort in foraging between all hosts, protected or not, but as *ε* increases, vector preferentially target the non-protected hosts. This implies that when $\varepsilon > 0$, the rate at which non-protected hosts are bitten increases with the level of bednet usage. *ε* may also be interpreted as representing the degree of vector mobility, such that physical restrictions on the movement of vectors would lead to lower values of *ε*. Studies are now showing evidence of malaria vectors changing their biological behavior due to the large coverage of bednets. This includes changes in the time of biting activity, and changes in feeding preference (11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19). In our model this could be interpreted as a selective force favoring higher levels of *ε*.

In addition to repellent, bednets are also commonly treated with insecticides that are meant to kill the mosquitos landing on them. To incorporate this effect on the vector population, we define *ξ* as the probability of mosquito mortality following an encounter with a treated net. Hence, the rate at which mosquitoes encounter a treated bednet and then die is *ξβb*(1- *ε*). *ξ* can take different values depending on the type of nets being used (i.e., whether they are treated or not), the rate at which the nets are re-treated with insecticides (e.g., Insecticide-treated nets, ITNs, loose their efficiency after a period of six months to a year and after a number of washes, in contrast to long-lasting insecticidal mosquito nets, LLINs, that can stay efficient for several

years (20)), the level of mosquito resistance to insecticides, and the type of insecticide being used (e.g., synthetic pyrethroid insecticide such as deltamethrin or permethrin, and others).

Figure SI-III-1 demonstrates the implications of insecticide treatment that repels vs. kills.

With the use of bednets child morbidity is generally found to decrease while adult morbidity primarily increases and may only start decreasing close to the elimination threshold (Eq. 1 in the main text). However, as shown in Figure SI-III-1, when bednets are not insecticide-impregnated (*ξ*=0), this decrease is minor, even when coverage levels are very high. Notably, bednets treated with relatively mild repellent $(\varepsilon=0.2)$ are less effective at the population level, than those that are not treated at all. This indicates that the repulsion of mosquitoes from nets is likely to have a counter-productive effect that significantly suppress their benefits if bednets do not also lead to enhanced mosquito mortality. This can occur as the nets age and the bednet declines in potency, and it emphasizes the superiority of LLINs over ITNs [note that we use ITN to represent both Insecticide-Treated Bednets and Long-Lasting Insecticide-Treated Nets (LLIN's)]. Differences between these are discussed in the *Methods* section of the main text. When the probability of mosquitoes dying from contact with nets decreases, the mosquito population maintains its size leading to an enhancement of the attack-rate on the unprotected hosts, which also increases at higher levels of bednet coverage (11-13). Crucially, the overall community benefits more from mass use of completely untreated nets, than when only a sub-section use treated, but non-fatal repellents. Naturally this introduces a conflict between immediate benefits for individuals on short timescales, and longer-term benefits for both individuals and the community as a whole. In this sense, ITNs in contrast to LLINs, may not always be in the benefit of the public good. This agrees with field studies that have concluded that "optimal LLIN should maximize engagement so as to maximize mortality" (14), and emphasizes the fundamental importance of treating bednets with insecticides that are more likely to kill than to repel, as well as the importance of considering the nature of vector activity when designing control policies (15, 16).

Figure SI-III-1: Change in morbidity with different levels of bednet use. **A-B** show changes children and adults, respectively, calculated by dividing levels of morbidity with intervention to those without it, and **C** shows the ratio between these, demonstrating an increase in pressure on the productive class. Different forms of insecticide treatment of repelling vs. killing are considered: pink: *ε*=0, *ξ*=0.2, red: *ε*=0.2, *ξ*=0.2, dark blue: *ε*=0, *ξ*=0, and light blue: *ε*=0.2, *ξ*=0. For all cases, adult morbidity primarily increases, and may only start decreasing close to the point of elimination, while child morbidity always decreases. All parameters are identical to those in Figure 2 of the main text.

SI-IV: Intervention: Vaccination

We consider the three major vaccine families currently in development $(21, 22)$:

1) *Blood-stage vaccine* (*BSV*): This vaccine provides protection from clinical disease but does not block infection; hence hosts can still become mildly or asymptomatically infected and infectious. The probabilities of successful transmission from an infected vaccinated host to a susceptible mosquito and from an infected mosquito to a susceptible vaccinated host are therefore positive (i.e., $\tau_{MH,VS(i)}$, $\tau_{MH,VR(i)}$, $\tau_{HM,VI(i)}$ and $\tau_{HM,VA(i)} > 0$), but possibly lowere than for the non vaccinated hosts (i.e., $\tau_{HM,VI(i)} \leq \tau_{HM,VA(i)}$, $\tau_{HM,VA(i)} \leq \tau_{HM,A(i)}$, $\tau_{MH,VS(i)} \leq \tau_{MH,S(i)}$ and $\tau_{MH,VS(i)} \leq \tau_{MH,S(i)}$). Vaccine protection lasts $1/\omega(i)$ years on average. Hosts that are infected during this period will acquired or boost their natural immunity, while in the absence of reinfection, they can loose natural immunity they may have already had. This implies that with early vaccination and with sufficient re-exposure, vaccinated hosts can gain and maintain natural immunity without ever experiencing clinical disease throughout their life.

2) Pre-erythocytic vaccine (PEV): This vaccine provides full protection from all forms of $\frac{1}{\pi}$ infection for an average period of $1/\omega(i)$ years. Therefore the probability of successful transmission from infected mosquito vaccinated human is 0 (i.e., $\tau_{MH,VS(i)} = \tau_{MH,VR(i)} = 0$), and the probability of successful transmission from human to mosquito is not defined (i.e., $\tau_{HM,VI(i)}$ and $\tau_{HM,VA(i)} = n.d.$). This implies that on the host population level, vaccination has *i* the potential to lead to a significant reduction in the general force of infection. On the host *individual host level however, even though this vaccine provides protection from clinical* disease on the short term, on the longer term vaccinated hosts may be loosing naturally acquired protective immunity, which they may have otherwise been able to maintain by regular boosting. **Not vaccinated:** *Si Ii Ri Ai* δ*i νⁱ ωⁱ* e p

3) *Transmission-blocking vaccine (TBV)*: This vaccine does not block infection or provide protection from clinical disease, but it significantly reduces the likeliness that infected hosts δ*i νⁱ ωⁱ νⁱ ωⁱ* will cause secondary infections. We therefore define the probability of successful δ*i* transmission from infected mosquito to susceptible vaccinated human as positive (i.e., $\tau_{MH,VS(i)}$, $\tau_{MH,VR(i)} > 0$, and from infected vaccinated human to susceptible mosquito as significantly reduced (i.e., $\tau_{HM, VI(i)}$ and $\tau_{HM, VA(i)} \approx 0$). Effects of this vaccine last for an average period of 1/*ω*(*i*) years.

Table SI-IV-1 summarizes the effect each vaccine has on transmission to and from vaccinated hosts, and the on the fraction of the host population we consider as suffering morbidity. Figure SI-IV-2 shows the change in morbidity for different levels of vaccine coverage.

	τ _{MH,V}	τ HM, V	Hosts with clinical	Hosts contributing to the
			disease	force of infection
BSV			$+$ $\frac{1}{2}$	$I_J + I_S + I_{VJ} + I_{VS}$
PEV		n.d.	\cdots + I_{S}	
T B V		reduced	$I_J + I_S + I_{VJ} + I_{VS}$	

Table SI-IV-1: A summary of the effects of each of the vaccines on the transmission cycle between hosts and vectors. *τ MH,V* is the probability of successful transmission from an infected vector to a vaccinated host, and $\tau_{HM,V}$ is the probability of successful transmission from an infected vaccinated host to a vector. each of the vaccines on the transmission evole be

Figure SI-IV-2: Change in morbidity with different levels of vaccine coverage. A and **B** show changes for children and adults, respectively, calculated by dividing levels of morbidity with intervention to those without it, and **C** shows 40

the ratio between these. For all three vaccines (*BSV* in red, *PEV* in blue, and *TBV* in green), as the level of vaccination increases, relative child morbidity decreases. For adults, however, *BSV* leads to a small decrease in morbidity, while the *PEV* and the *TBV* lead to a significant increase in the level of morbidity. For all three vaccines immunity is assumed to wane after 1/*ω*=2 years on average. As in the main text, this example is for the simple version of the model with two age groups: a) young children, and b), older children and adults. Vaccine effort of young children is defined as $log(v_J)$. For all classes $i=J,S,R$: $\tau_{\text{MH},j}=\tau_{\text{HM},i}=0.5$. For *BSV*: $\tau_{\text{MH},\text{V}}=\tau_{\text{HM},j}=0.5$, for *PEV* $\tau_{\text{MH},\text{V}}=0$, and for *TBV τ*_{MH,V}=0.5, and τ _{HM,V}=0. *νJ*=*v_S*/100=*v_R*/100(yr⁻¹), and *ε*=0.2 and *ξ*=0.2. All other parameters are identical to those in Figure 1 of the main text.

SI-V: Model sensitivity

The result presented in the main text and ones obtained using the generalized version of the model with multiple age groups gave equivalent as demonstrated below where we show results for 2-age group and 5-age groups.

In the 2-age group example, at the mean age of 5yr children transition to the older age class, and we assume that only hosts in the second age group can gain clinical immunity. However, the 5 age group allows us to incorporate more complicated scenarios. Here we assumed the mean age of transition from group 1 to 2 was 1yr, from 2 to 3 was 5yr, from 3 to 4 was 10yr, and from 4 to 5 was 20yr. We assumed infants in the first age group (0-1yr) had maternal immunity and did not get infected, and that only host of age group 3 and above could gain clinical immunity.

Figure SI-V-1: **2-age groups**: Effects of combined intervention on morbidity following vaccine and bednet use. Contour plots **A**-**C** show changes in total morbidity calculated by dividing the observed level of morbidity with bednets by its level in their absence. Cold colors show synergistic interactions, and warm colors show antagonistic ones. **D**-**F** show changes in total morbidity calculated by dividing the observed level of morbidity with vaccine treatment by its level in its absence. **G-I** show the corresponding percent of hosts in the total population suffering clinical disease (morbidity). Vaccine effort is defined as $log(v_1)$, where $v_1=v_2/100$ (yr⁻¹). Parameters: $N_H=5000$, *N*_M=5000, *β*=0.5, *ε*=0.2, *ξ*=0.4, 1/*σ*=60dy, 1/*δ*=1/*δ*_V=1yr., 1/*κ*_{1.2}=5yr, 1/*α*_J=1/*α*_S=1/*μ*_H=30yr, 1/*μ*_M=20dy, *λ_{<i>rainfall*}= $N_M \times \mu_M$. For all classes $i=1, ..., n$: $\tau_{MH,S(i)} = \tau_{MH,R(i)} = 0.5$, $\tau_{HM,I(i)} = \tau_{HM,A(i)} = 0.5$. For BSV: $\tau_{MH,VS(i)} =$ $\tau_{MH,VR(i)} = \tau_{HM,V(i)} = \tau_{HM,V(A(i))} = 0.5$, for PEV : $\tau_{MH,VS(i)} = \tau_{MH,VR(i)} = 0.5$, $\tau_{HM,V(i)} = \tau_{HM,VA(i)} = 0$, and for TBV $\tau_{MH,VS(i)} = \tau_{MH,VR(i)} = 0$, $τ_{\text{HM}}$ $V_{I(i)}=τ_{\text{HM}}$ $V_{A(i)}=0.5$.

Figure SI-V-2: **5-age groups**: Effects of combined intervention on morbidity following vaccine and bednet use. Contour plots **A**-**C** show changes in total morbidity calculated by dividing the observed level of morbidity with bednets by its level in their absence. Cold colors show synergistic interactions, and warm colors show antagonistic ones. **D**-**F** show changes in total morbidity calculated by dividing the observed level of morbidity with vaccine treatment by its level in its absence. **G-I** show the corresponding percent of hosts in the total population suffering clinical disease (morbidity). Parameters: N_H =5000, N_M =5000, $1/\mu_M$ =20dys, $\lambda_{rainfall}$ = $N_M \times \mu_M$, β =0.5, ε=0.2, ξ=0.4, and $1/\kappa_{1,2}=1$ yr, $1/\kappa_{2,3}=4$ yrs, $1/\kappa_{3,4}=5$ yrs, $1/\kappa_{4,5}=10$ yrs. For all age groups $i=1,...,n$ and for classes $j=S, I, R, A, V_S, V_I, V_R$, V_A : $1/\alpha_{j(i)}=30$ yrs, $1/\sigma_{j(i)}=60$ dys, $1/\delta_i=1$ yr, $1/\omega_{j(i)}=1$ yr Vaccine effort is defined as $log(v_1)$, where for classes $j = S, I$, R, A, V_{S} , V_{I} , $v_{j(1)} = v_{j(2)} = v_{j(3)} / 100 = v_{j(4)} / 100 = v_{j(5)} / 100$ (yr⁻¹). For $i=1,...,n$: $\tau_{\text{MH},S(i)} = \tau_{\text{MH},R(i)} = 0.5$, $\tau_{\text{HM},I(i)} = \tau_{\text{HM},A(i)} = 0.5$. For BSV: $\tau_{\text{MH, V5(i)}} = \tau_{\text{MH, VR(i)}} = \tau_{\text{HM, VI(i)}} = \tau_{\text{HM, VA(i)}} = 0.5$, for PEV: $\tau_{\text{MH, VS(i)}} = \tau_{\text{MH, VR(i)}} = 0.5$, $\tau_{\text{HM, VI(i)}} = \tau_{\text{HM, VA(i)}} = 0$, and for TBV $\tau_{\text{MH,VS}(i)} = \tau_{\text{MH,VR}(i)} = 0$, $\tau_{\text{HM,VI}(i)} = \tau_{\text{HM,VA}(i)} = 0.5$.

In addition, we also tested sensitivity of our results by considering the following parameter ranges (see summary in Table SI-V-3):

- 1) Duration of natural immunity (1/*δi*) spanning from on average 1yr to on average 32yrs: We found that only at the extreme case where duration of immunity is on the order of a host's lifetime do our results break down, and for all other values the results were equivalent to the ones presented in the main text.
- 2) Transmission intensity (β) , the total number of bites of a mosquito per unit time), spanning from 0.25 to 1: For all values the results were equivalent to the ones presented in the main text.
- 3) Infectiousness of asymptomatic hosts ($\tau_{HMA(i)}$) spanning from 0 to 0.5: For all values the results were equivalent to the ones presented in the main text.
- 4) Duration of clinical infection ($1/\sigma_{I(i)}$) and duration of asymptomatic infection ($1/\sigma_{A(i)}$), we considered cases where: *i*) the durations remained equal, both spanning from 30 to 720 days, and cases where *ii*) duration of the asymptomatic infection was longer than the duration of clinical infection. For the latter we also considered cases where the infectiousness of asymptomatic hosts was lower of that of the clinical cases ($\tau_{HML}(i)$): We found that only at extremely long durations of both clinical and asymptomatic infection (both on the ord

Table SI-V-3 provides a summary of parameter ranges and combinations that were tested. All cases were run assuming **5-age groups** with parameters similar to those presented in Figure SI-V-2. The comparison we made was to the results presented in Figure 3 of the main text, where the line marked in red is the case analogous to the case show there, just with 5 age groups vs. 2, as well as assuming maternal immunity up to the age of 1 yr.

Table SI-V-3:

SI-VI: Trends in data

Changing trends of adult and child mortality in Sub-Saharan African from 1980 to 1989, and from 2006 to 2010

In areas of endemic malaria acquired immunity is generally known to protect adults from clinical disease. In many Sub-Saharan African countries that have been subject to mass intervention over the past decade, there has been a striking epidemiological shift in cases, with increasing proportions of adult mortality relative to young children. There is concern that these patterns reflect, at least in part, shifts in malaria morbidity to older ages due to lower levels of protective immunity, implying a rise in susceptibility of older children and adults. It has been suggested that Pyrethroid insecticide resistance may have been responsible for these patterns, rather than age-dependent changes in immunity profiles. This explanation seems disingenuous as resistance would lead to reduced efficiency of bednets across all age groups, rather than to increased incidences of malaria attacks in older children and adults (23). Unfortunately, insufficient data is available for proving casualty between mass bednets intervention and increased morbidity of adults (24); further studies are needed to assess age shifts in malaria morbidity and mortality after increases in malaria control.

Figure SI-VI below shows the cumulative probability of death due to malaria for children under the age of 5yr., and for older children and adults of over 15yr. for 36 out of 38 countries in Western, Eastern and Southern Sub-Saharan African. The probability is calculated as the number of people out of 1,000 who were likely to die. We focus on two representative periods: 1) 1980 to 1989, a period when mortality was relatively stable, and 2) 2006 to 2010, the period following the 2004 peak of malaria mortality (25), after which mass intervention had been put in place in all these countries (26). The data on global malaria mortality between 1980 and 2010 is from the Institute of Health and Evaluation (IHME) (27).

In Figure SI-VI-1 is the cumulative probability of death of children (thin lines), and of adults (bold lines) divided by its level in 1980, respectively, and in Figure SI-VI-2 is the ratio of adults $($ >15yr.) to children (<5yr). Although levels of child mortality were relatively high following their peak in the early 2000's, these have rapidly decreased during the half-decade of 2006-2010, and in many countries even reached levels lower than those of the early 1980's. This has been associated with the success of mass intervention, and in particular bednets. In contrast, for adults the cumulative probability of death due to malaria remained significantly higher in 2006- 2010 relative to the 1980's, and despite signs of decreasing levels, adult mortality is still relatively high, and the rate of this decline seems to be decelerating in a majority of the countries. In particular, in Figure SI-VI-2 we see that for many of the countries the ratio of adult to children is still climbing.

These asymmetric decreases in malaria among different age groups clearly pose a challenge to control and elimination efforts.

Figure SI-VI –

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