Appendix 1: PRISMA checklist for systematic reviews and meta-analysis.

Table 1

Section/topic	#	Checklist item	Reported on page #
TITLE			1
Title	1	Identify the report as a systematic review, meta-analysis, or both.	
ABSTRACT			
Structured summary	2	Provide a structured summary including, as applicable: background; objectives; data sources; study eligibility criteria, participants, and interventions; study appraisal and synthesis methods; results; limitations; conclusions and implications of key findings; systematic review registration number.	2
INTRODUCTION			
Rationale	3	Describe the rationale for the review in the context of what is already known.	3
Objectives	4	Provide an explicit statement of questions being addressed with reference to participants, interventions, comparisons, outcomes, and study design (PICOS).	3
METHODS			
Protocol and registration	5	Indicate if a review protocol exists, if and where it can be accessed (e.g., Web address), and, if available, provide registration information including registration number.	4
Eligibility criteria	6	Specify study characteristics (e.g., PICOS, length of follow-up) and report characteristics (e.g., years considered, language, publication status) used as criteria for eligibility, giving rationale.	4
Information sources	7	Describe all information sources (e.g., databases with dates of coverage, contact with study authors to identify additional studies) in the search and date last searched.	4
Search	8	Present full electronic search strategy for at least one database, including any limits used, such that it could be repeated.	4
Study selection	9	State the process for selecting studies (i.e., screening, eligibility, included in systematic review, and, if applicable, included in the meta-analysis).	4
Data collection process	10	Describe method of data extraction from reports (e.g., piloted forms, independently, in duplicate) and any processes for obtaining and confirming data from investigators.	5

Data items	11	List and define all variables for which data were sought (e.g., PICOS, funding sources) and any assumptions and simplifications made.	5
Risk of bias in individual studies	12	Describe methods used for assessing risk of bias of individual studies (including specification of whether this was done at the study or outcome level), and how this information is to be used in any data synthesis.	5
Summary measures	13	State the principal summary measures (e.g., risk ratio, difference in means).	NA
Synthesis of results	14	Describe the methods of handling data and combining results of studies, if done, including measures of consistency (e.g., I^2) for each meta-analysis.	5
Risk of bias across studies	15	Specify any assessment of risk of bias that may affect the cumulative evidence (e.g., publication bias, selective reporting within studies).	NA
Additional analyses	16	Describe methods of additional analyses (e.g., sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression), if done, indicating which were pre-specified.	NA
RESULTS			
Study selection	17	Give numbers of studies screened, assessed for eligibility, and included in the review, with reasons for exclusions at each stage, ideally with a flow diagram.	6
Study characteristics	18	For each study, present characteristics for which data were extracted (e.g., study size, PICOS, follow-up period) and provide the citations.	6 -11
Risk of bias within studies	19	Present data on risk of bias of each study and, if available, any outcome level assessment (see item 12).	6
Results of individual studies	20	For all outcomes considered (benefits or harms), present, for each study: (a) simple summary data for each intervention group (b) effect estimates and confidence intervals, ideally with a forest plot.	NA
Synthesis of results	21	Present results of each meta-analysis done, including confidence intervals and measures of consistency.	NA
Risk of bias across studies	22	Present results of any assessment of risk of bias across studies (see Item 15).	6
Additional analysis	23	Give results of additional analyses, if done (e.g., sensitivity or subgroup analyses, meta-regression [see Item 16]).	NA
DISCUSSION			
Summary of evidence	24	Summarize the main findings including the strength of evidence for each main outcome; consider their relevance to key groups (e.g., healthcare providers, users, and policy makers).	11

Limitations	25	Discuss limitations at study and outcome level (e.g., risk of bias), and at review-level (e.g., incomplete retrieval of identified research, reporting bias).	13
Conclusions	26	Provide a general interpretation of the results in the context of other evidence, and implications for future research.	13
FUNDING			
Funding	27	Describe sources of funding for the systematic review and other support (e.g., supply of data); role of funders for the systematic review.	14

Appendix 2: Information sources

Electronic sources

Table 1a: Search strategy for Medline database

Searches	**Search combinations**	**Search terms**	**Number of hits**
S1		"prognost* model" OR "predict* model" OR “Predictive Value of Tests”	208,974
S2		"predict* score" OR "prognos* score"	3,884
S3	S1 OR S2		211,947
S4		(MH "Malaria+") OR (MH "Malaria, Vivax") OR (MH "Malaria, Cerebral") OR (MH "Malaria, Falciparum+") OR (MH "Malaria, Avian")	63,536
S5		"Malaria" OR "vivax malaria" OR "falciparum malaria" OR "cerebral malaria" OR "severe malaria" OR "clinical malaria" OR plasmodium OR antimalaria* OR anti-malaria*	111,461
S6	S4 OR S5		111,510
S7	S3 AND S6		520

Table 1b: Search strategy for CINAHL database

Searches	Search combinations	Search terms	Number of hits
S1		"prognost* model" OR "predict* model" OR “Predictive Value of Tests”	49,434
S2		"predict* score" OR "prognos* score"	1,041
S3	S1 OR S2		50,217
S4		(MH "Malaria+")	7,468
S5		"Malaria" OR "vivax malaria" OR "falciparum malaria" OR "cerebral malaria" OR "severe malaria" OR "clinical malaria" OR plasmodium OR antimalaria* OR anti-malaria*	10,945
S6	S4 OR S5		10,945
S7	S3 AND S6		52

Table 1c: Search strategy for Global Health database

Searches	Search combinations	Search terms	Number of hits
S1		"prognost* model" OR "predict* model" OR “Predictive Value of Tests”	2,906
S2		"predict* score" OR "prognos* score"	368
S3	S1 OR S2		2,906
S4		"Malaria" OR "vivax malaria" OR "falciparum malaria" OR "cerebral malaria" OR "severe malaria" OR "clinical malaria" OR plasmodium OR antimalaria* OR anti-malaria*	89,436
S7	S3 AND S4		72

Appendix 3: The PROBAST tool used to assess the risk of bias and applicability of the studies used in the review

Study	Risk of bias				Applicability			Overall	
	Participants	Predictors	Outcome	Analysis	Participants	Predictors	Outcome	ROB	Applicability
Conroy 2012	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-
Conroy 2015*	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Dondorp	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Gerardin*	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Grigg	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Hanson 2010	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Hanson 2014	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Helbok 2003*	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-
Helbok 2005*	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-
Helbok 2006*	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	-
Helbok 2009	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Jaffar	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Krishna	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	-
Marsh	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Mishra	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Mohapatra 2009	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Mohapatra 2014	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Molyneux	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Newton 2005	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Newton 2013	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Njim	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
von Seidlein	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+
Webber	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wilairatana*	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+

*Study was designed to externally validate existing models; + indicates low risk of bias/low concern regarding applicability; - indicates high risk of bias/high concern regarding applicability