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Artemisia afra will save Africa

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A team of medical doctors in R D Congo, Jerome Munyangi and Michel Idumbo, have run randomized clinical trials in Maniema province with the participation of some 1000 malaria infected patients. The trials were run in conformity with the WHO procedures. For all the parameters tested herbal treatment was significantly better than ACTs. The efficiency was equivalent for *Artemisia annua* and *Artemisia afra*. More important even is the observation for the total absence of gametocytes after 7 days treatment with the herb, a tremendous hope for malaria eradication. The results have been communicated to the local health authorities, and to the Ministries of Health and Research in the RD Congo who were supportive of these trials. The draft of a paper is almost ready and will be submitted to a peer reviewed scientific journal. The large scale trials confirm those of Dr Constant Kansango in Katanga who had found in a trial with 44 *Plasmodium falciparum* infected patients that after 7 days of treatment with 20gr of capsules containing A afra powder the gametocytes had completely disappeared, except for one patient. *Artemisia afra* does not contain artemisinin. The best explanation available is the high arginine content of *Artemisia* plants (see "Arginine, a deadly weapon against gametocytes" on malariaworld.org). In 2012 already Dr Saint-Hillier worked with capsules containing powdered leaves from the French *Artemisia annua* genotype with a content of 0.1 % artemisinin only. A total of 40 000 capsules containing one gram was administered, to adults, children, but also to neonates and pregnant women. The therapeutic effect of the capsules against fever and other clinical signs of malaria are always very fast. These results confirm results obtained by the association IFBV-Belherb and her partners in many small scale trials in several African countries. Therapeutic efficiency always was > 95% and prophylaxy was noticed and documented. The abstracts or peer reviewed papers of all these trials are available on request.

Biography

Pierre Lutgen studied at the University of Louvain in Belgium and obtained diplomas in chemistry, social sciences and philosophy. He worked during 25 years for the Dupont Cy, in research, and during 8 years in the steel industry, mainly in the environmental field. Since his retirement he worked as consultant for health and environment as invited professor at the University in Medellin and for the European Communities in several countries. Over the last ten years he has organized the association IFBV-BELHERB studying and fighting tropical diseases with some 30 academic and medical partners in Africa, South America and Europe. Numerous peer reviewed papers have been published by this team, mainly on herbal medicine.

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