

Malaria remains a true scourge of humankind, with perhaps the greatest social and economic impact of any parasitic disease; the cover art for this edition of *FOUNDATIONS OF PARASITOLOGY* reflects this situation. *Anopheles* species capable of transmitting malaria are common throughout much of the world, especially in the tropics and sub-tropics, and their presence, coupled with living conditions that expose people to their bites both day and night, virtually ensures that human populations in these regions will be at risk. Our cover design is intended to convey the idea that vectors are the primary factor in sustaining risk of acquiring many infections, but as every parasitology student either knows or soon learns, complex life cycles also are common among parasites. Therefore, disease control efforts can focus on any stage that is vulnerable to disruption, and that claim is true for any parasite species with a complex life cycle. Finally, ecological settings in which vectors thrive and in which humans encounter both vectors and parasites are crucial to the maintenance of risk, regardless of the disease. Our cover is thus a reminder of the multi-faceted lives of many parasites, especially those that encounter various host tissues during development. The mosquito on our cover is *Anopheles freeborni*, a New World species; the other figures include, counterclockwise from the bottom, a pre-erythrocytic schizont, ring stages in a multiply-infected erythrocyte, an erythrocytic schizont, gametocytes, and oocysts on the gut of an experimentally infected mosquito. For parasitology students wishing to explore the biology of malarial parasites on the Internet, we recommend the Malaria Atlas Project site (<http://www.map.ox.ac.uk/>)

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