

14 Aug 2017

Malaria imported into the UK 2016

Public Health England publish the annual malaria data for 2016

Public Health England (PHE) has published details of malaria cases imported into the United Kingdom (UK) in 2016 [1].

In 2016, a total of 1,618 cases of imported malaria were reported in the UK. Cases were reported in England (1,529), Scotland (58), Wales (25) and Northern Ireland (6). The number of cases reported during 2016 was 15.6% higher than reported in 2015 (N=1,400.) [1].

Most cases in 2016 were caused by *P. falciparum*, which is consistent with previous years.

There were six deaths from malaria reported in 2016, the same number as in 2015. These were all from *falciparum* malaria acquired in Sub Saharan and Southern Africa.

The full report, [Malaria imported into the United Kingdom 2016: Implications for those advising travellers](#) is available from PHE.

Advice for travellers

Malaria is an almost completely preventable, but potentially fatal disease. Most cases of malaria in UK travellers occur in those who have not accessed or received advice on its prevention or have not adhered to the advice given.

You should seek advice about the risk of malaria at your destination before you travel, take the appropriate malaria prophylaxis (if recommended), and take measures to protect against night-time biting mosquitoes.

If travelling to malaria risk areas, you should seek urgent medical advice for any symptoms, especially fever, that occur either during your trip or in the year following your return home, including a same day result malaria blood test.

Advice on the malaria risk in specific countries can be found on the [Country Information pages](#) or in the [Public Health England Advisory Committee on Malaria Prevention guidelines](#).

Resources

- [PHE Malaria prevention guidelines for travellers from the UK](#)

References

1. [Public Health England. Malaria imported into the United Kingdom 2016: Implications for those advising travellers. 14 August 2017. \[Accessed 14 August 2017\]](#)