

A Study of Malaria in Andhra Pradesh

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Abstract

Background: To the best knowledge of the author, there is no available literature on the current status of Malaria in Andhra Pradesh. Hence the preparation of this document.

Objectives: To find out the parameters of Malaria in Andhra Pradesh till as recently as possible.

Methods: By studying the documents prepared by the National Centre for Vector Borne Diseases (NCVBD) and doing a web search on Malaria in Andhra Pradesh.

Results: It is seen that the Annual Parasite Incidence (API) of Malaria in Delhi State had come down to the very low level of 0.12 in 2018 and that there were only 1218 cases of Malaria in Andhra Pradesh during 2021.

Conclusions: Andhra Pradesh is very close to achieving near-elimination goals but will have to take active measures to reach it.

Keywords: Malaria; Andhra Pradesh; API; NCVBD; WHO.

INTRODUCTION

Andhra Pradesh is in the southern part of India. It is bordered by Telangana and Odisha in the north, Karnataka in the west, Tamil Nadu in the south and bounded by the Bay of Bengal in the east.

MATERIAL & METHODS

The study design included analysis of the

annual reports of the Malaria Division of the National Centre for Vector-Borne Diseases Control (NCVBDC) for 2017 and 2018 and a web search for information on Malaria in Andhra Pradesh.

Results

According to the most recent data available on the NCVBDC website (data for 2018), the API for Andhra Pradesh was 0.12.² Its comparison with the API from 2017 can be seen from the following table:

Table 1: API of Andhra Pradesh, 2017 and 2018

State	Year	
	2017	2018
Andhra Pradesh	0.35	0.12

Sources: (2) and (3)

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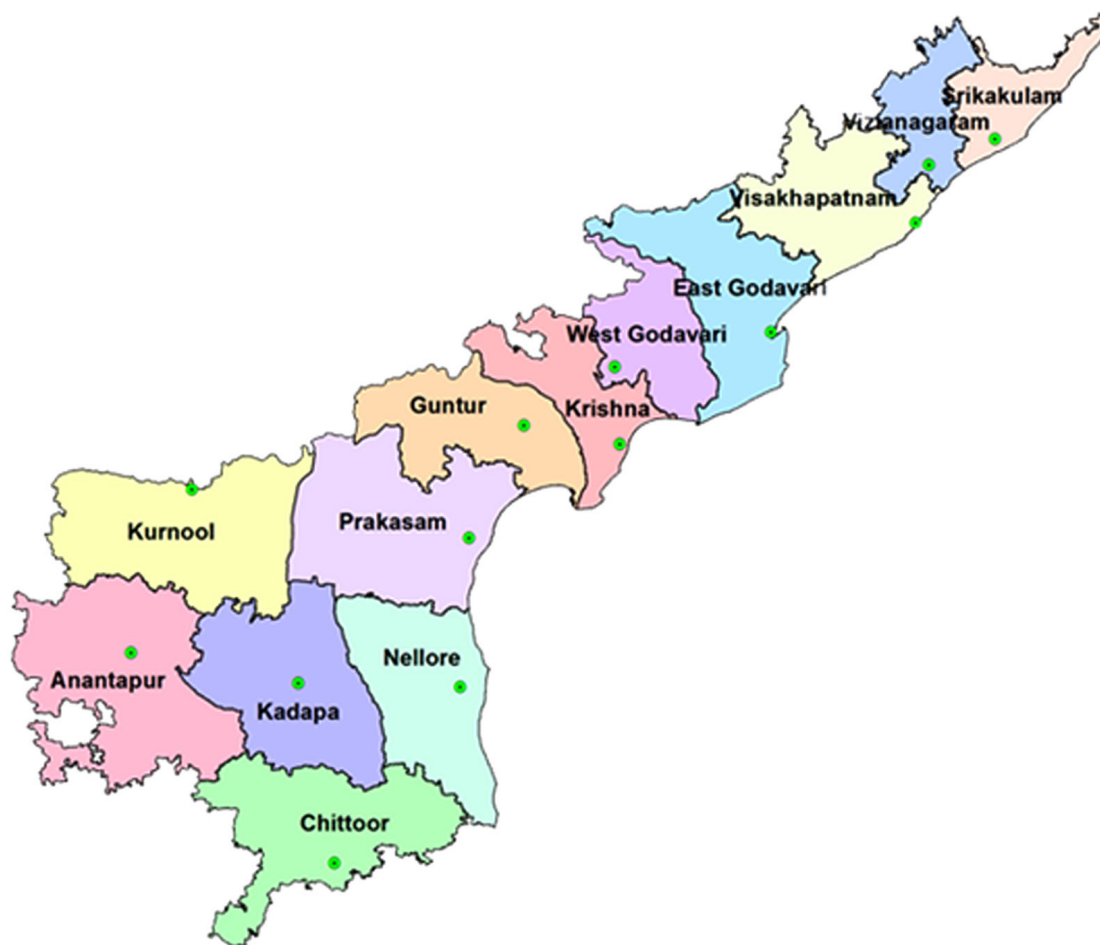


Fig. 1: Map of Andhra Pradesh [Source: (1)]

Here, it is seen that the API in 2018 reduced to one-third that of what it was in 2017.

In 2018, the API was not uniform throughout the state but varied from district to district. This can be seen from the following table:

Table 2: API of the Districts of Andhra Pradesh, 2018

| S. No. | District      | API  |
|--------|---------------|------|
| 1      | Srikakulam    | 0.10 |
| 2      | Vizianagaram  | 0.14 |
| 3      | Visakhapatnam | 0.53 |
| 4      | East Godavari | 0.35 |
| 5      | West Godavari | 0.05 |
| 6      | Krishna       | 0.01 |
| 7      | Guntur        | 0.09 |
| 8      | Prakasam      | 0.05 |
| 9      | Nellore       | 0.02 |

|       |                |      |
|-------|----------------|------|
| 10    | Chittoor       | 0.01 |
| 11    | Kadapa         | 0.09 |
| 12    | Ananthapur     | 0.04 |
| 13    | Kurnool        | 0.01 |
| State | Andhra Pradesh | 0.12 |

Source: (2)

Further search revealed the following information on Malaria cases in Andhra Pradesh during 2019, 2020 and 2021 and is shown in the following table:

Table 3: Data on Malaria Cases in Andhra Pradesh, 2019, 2020 and 2021

| Reference Period | Number of Malaria Cases |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| 2019             | 3104                    |
| 2020             | 2027                    |
| 2021             | 1218                    |

Sources: (4)

## DISCUSSION

Beginning in 2017, there was a decline in the incidence of Malaria in Andhra Pradesh.

In 2016, the Government of India adopted a framework for Malaria Elimination in India covering the period 2016 – 2030.<sup>5</sup> This was based on WHO's Global Technical Strategy for Malaria covering the period 2016 – 2030 which was adopted in 2015 and updated in 2021.<sup>6</sup>

The aim is to reach zero Malaria cases by 2027 and then wait for three years before WHO can grant Malaria-free status certification. It is already nearly the middle of 2022 and India is about to reach the halfway mark of the period from 2016 to 2027.

## CONCLUSION

Although Andhra Pradesh did not reach zero Malaria cases in 2021, it did reach an API of 0.12 during 2018. Therefore, it is a good candidate for being among the first few states in the country close to being able to achieve near-elimination goals.

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