# Human Immune Deficiency Virus and Malaria Co-Infection Among Adults in the North-Central Zone, Nigeria, in the era of Improved Access to Prevention and Control. (Review)

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**Abstract.**

**Statement of the Problem:** Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and malaria are significant global health problems. HIV and malaria are the major causes of disease and poverty. Globally, the combined effects of HIV and malaria are responsible for more than two million annual deaths. The impact of HIV and malaria are peculiar to low-income countries and overlap significantly in Sub-Saharan Africa, where malaria is the leading cause of death among HIV positive individuals. Studies has reported that malaria encourages rapid progression of HIV to AIDs, increase viral load and decreased CD4 cell, while HIV increases severe cases of malaria episode, which often leads to death. HIV-malaria co-infection interaction has continued to maintain a potential risk even in malaria free regions, common among HIV positive individuals returning from malaria endemic areas.

The aim is to explore the available HIV/malaria co-infection interaction management practice and procedure at rural secondary health care level.

**Methodology:** Extensive search of database (Ebscohost, Google Scholar, MEDLINE, PubMed) was conducted for relevant literature and journal. Studies that recruited patients according to specific opportunistic infections alone was excluded.

**Findings:** Relevant literature search revealed that, health outcome of co-infected patients has not been extensively reviewed in malaria endemic regions, coupled with an urgent need for an intervention programme.

**Conclusion & Significance:** The literature search provides more data and reveals the need for HIV/malaria co-infection interaction management practice and procedure at rural secondary health care level as we patiently await a protective vaccine for both infectious disease.

**Keywords:** HIV/malaria co-infection, Adults, Sub-Saharan Africa, intervention, control.