

# Medical Case Reports and Images

Editorial

Open Access

## The Mosquitoes

Nicholas J Demos\*

New Jersey Rutgers Medical School, USA

**\*Corresponding author:** Nicholas J Demos, New Jersey Rutgers Medical School, USA, Email: ndemos09@gmail.com

**Copyright:** © 2016 Nicholas J Demos. This article is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source.

### Original Submission

**Received:** September 30, 2016

**Accepted:** October 06, 2016

**Published:** October 12, 2016

**Open Peer Review Status:** Editorials, news items, analysis articles, and features do not undergo external peer review.

**How to cite this article:** Nicholas J Demos. The Mosquitoes. Medical Case Reports and Images. (2016) 1: 2.1

# Medical Case Reports and Images

## Editorial

The mosquitoes have been on this Earth for 30 million years. They have been the hosts and transmitters of at least 25 viruses, bacteria, and parasites. The anopheles (Greek for useless) mosquitoes have been transmitting the plasmodium protozoan of Malaria for centuries if not millennia. During my childhood, we were taught to smash the anopheles wherever found. The distinguishing characteristic was the tail pointing up when sitting on the wall or any flat surface: an example of the all-out effort together with other sanitary measures before and during World War II. The disease was massively extending around the Mediterranean basing and the Middle East and Africa involving large masses of populations who lived around marshes and other areas of stagnant water.

Malaria was considered as the epidemiologic etiologic factor for the development of sickle cell anemia in two greek villages [1]. It was thought that longstanding or repeated attack of Malaria produced the changes in the red blood cells of the patients so profoundly as to cause genetic changes.

The protective effect of the sickling of the red cell to the infectivity of the plasmodium malaria [2] has been noticed; the rolls of heredity have been investigated and ascertained [3,4]. The sickle cell disease has been reported and studied in Northern Europe, South America and India [5].

The deterioration of the body's defenses due to chronic or repeated malaria at least in Greece was associated with other diseases such tuberculosis [1]. The incidence of both malaria and tuberculosis showed dramatic reduction right after World War II. UNRRA, the United Nations Relief Rehabilitation Administration, provided planes which approved marshes in Greece with DDT. The United States has provided over 73% of the expenses of the lifesaving work of UNRRA. This organization, UNRRA, provided the urgent need of food and medicines as well [6].

Who is going to spray the Zika Virus carrier mosquito, the *Aedes Aegypti*. The DDT, dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane insecticide has been outlawed! That is the next job for CDC and WHO, the World Health Organization [7].

## References

1. Choremis C, Zervos N, Constantinides V, Zannos L. Sickle-Cell Anemia In Greece. *The Lancet*. 1951; 257: 1147-1149.
2. Shroeder HW. Principles of Human Genetics. In: Cecil Textbook of Medicine, 21st edn. Philadelphia: Saunders. 2000; 134.
3. Ferreira A, Marguti I, Bechmann I, Jeney V, Chora Â, et al. Sickle Hemoglobin Confers Tolerance to Plasmodium Infection. *Cell*. 2011; 145: 398-409.
4. Cyrklaff M, Sanchez CP, Kilian N, Bisseye C, Simporé J, et al. Hemoglobins S and C Interfere with Actin Remodeling in *Plasmodium falciparum*-Infected Erythrocytes. 2011. Retrieved from <http://science.sciencemag.org/content/334/6060/1283>
5. Serjeant G, Ghosh K, Patel J. Sickle cell disease in India: A perspective. *Indian J Med Res Indian Journal of Medical Research*. 2016; 143: 21-24.
6. Woodbridge G. UNRRA; the history of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. New York: Columbia Univ. Press. 1950.
7. Frieden TR, Schuchat A, Peterson LR. Zika Virus 6 Months Later. 2016. Retrieved from <http://jama.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=2543301>