

Information Sheet Pilot Study Hair Analysis

Dear traveller

We contact you because you are taking one or more of the following anti-malarial medication: Mefloquine, Proguanil, Atovaquone, Doxycycline.

We are currently developing a method to determine the amount of these anti-malarial medications in hair. For technical reasons, we need hair samples from people taking these anti-malarial medications in order to create a good and reliable method.

The method, which will be developed in this study, will in a further step test whether hair samples could be used instead of blood samples for the determination of anti-malarial medications in the body. Hair samples do not need complex measures to be transported to the laboratory. In addition, sampling is much more pleasant and painless.

The background for the development of this method is the following: In many cases blood is currently taken to determine the amount of medicine in the body. This enables the dosage of the medication to be optimised for the individual patient in order to achieve optimum efficacy with as few side effects as possible. However, blood has several disadvantages: The collection is unpleasant because a vein has to be punctured. The transport of the blood sample to the laboratory requires complex measures (e.g. cooling) to ensure that the medicament in the blood sample are not broken down.

If you agree, a pencil-thick hair strand at the back of your head is first tied together with a textile strand and then cut off close to your scalp. Apart from the determination of the amount of the mentioned anti-malarial medications in your hair, no further analysis is carried out. Other medications or other substances are not detected. Your sample and also the measured results will be treated anonymously, no conclusions about your person will be possible. Your sample will be completely destroyed after completion of the measurements.

We thank you very much for your time and would be very pleased if you would agree to participate in our study.

Possible benefits: You will contribute to a scientific study that allows the evaluation of malaria medication in hair.

Possible risks: No health risks are included but you are expected to contribute some hairs.

Declaration of consent

I have read and understood the above statement. Possible questions were discussed with me. I agree that I will attend a follow- up visit and that a strand of hair about the thickness of a pencil will be cut off.

Name:

Place, date:

Signature:

Follow- up visit: date and time:

