

Essential reading

The Malaria Challenge after one hundred years of malariology. Papers from The Malariology Centenary Conference held in Rome 1998. (Edited by M. Coluzzi and D. Bradley). Parassitologia 41 (1-3), i-vi + 1-528. Published 1999. ISSN 0048-2951

The editors, Mario Coluzzi and David Bradley, have collated eighty-six papers written by a total of several hundred international authors to celebrate over 100 years of malariology. They must be congratulated in publishing the book within a year of the Centenary Conference.

The papers are arranged under eight headings: Historical perspectives; Evolutionary and genetical backgrounds; Human parasite-vector interactions; Infection and disease epidemiology; Malaria control priorities and constraints; Implementation of malaria control; Progress in the development of malaria vaccines, and New century scenarios in malariology. There is also a short section with final remarks, and a closing address.

Almost all of the key workers in malariology have contributed to the conference papers as either sole author or as a member of a research team. The participation of so many esteemed researchers underscores the high standards of this international conference. The conference papers inform the reader of the current range of investigation and engender an appreciation of the impact of future multi-faceted research in the field of malariology. In particular, the application of molecular research to malariology is well documented, and the need for future vigilance against resurgence of malaria is captured in one of the last titles: "The need to maintain the rage". This highlights the need to ensure that appropriate attention is given to malaria, with adequate political and financial support.

The Malaria Challenge can be ordered by email from: lombardo.editore@tiscalinet.it

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