

Malaria

What is Malaria?

Malaria is a disease caused by a parasite that infects mosquitos.

Signs and Symptoms

The incubation period ranges from 7-30 days. Symptoms vary by disease type.

Uncomplicated Malaria includes a malaria attack that lasts 6-10 hours with symptoms including:

- A cold stage (shivering)
- A hot stage (fever, headaches, vomiting)
- Sweating stage (sweats, tiredness)

Other symptoms include:

- Fever
- Chills
- Sweats
- Headaches
- Nausea and vomiting
- Body ache
- General malaise

There is a severe form of Malaria that can lead to organ failure and abnormalities with the blood and/or metabolism.

Symptoms include:

- Abnormal behavior, impaired consciousness, seizures, or coma
- Severe anemia to do destruction of red blood cells

- Low blood pressure
- Kidney failure

Transmission (How it spreads)

Humans are infected through the bite of an infected Anopheles mosquito

Diagnosis and Treatment

Microscopy and rapid testing is available to detect the disease

Antimalarial drugs are available, and for travelers, can be taken prior to travel to affected areas

Prevention:

Use of an EPA-registered insect repellent

Wear long sleeves and long pants

Use of treated mosquito nets

Who is at Risk?

Those living in or traveling to countries where Yellow Fever is endemic or where outbreaks are occurring

If you have symptoms, call your healthcare provider

Report cases to the Riley County Health Department by calling the Disease Investigation Line:
785-317-0474

Malaria is a reportable disease in the state of Kansas. All cases must be reported to KDHE via the
Epi Hotline: 877-427-7317

For more information, visit:

<https://www.cdc.gov/malaria/about/>