

R21/Matrix-M Malaria Vaccine

Source: IE

Serum Institute of India (SII), the world's largest vaccine manufacturer (by number of doses produced and sold globally), has shipped the first set of **R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccines** to countries in Africa.

- This vaccine has been developed by the University of Oxford and the Serum Institute of India.
 - It has been recommended for use by the <u>World Health Organization (WHO)</u> after meeting required safety, quality and effectiveness standards.
 - The first malaria vaccine, RTS,S/AS01 was recommended by WHO to prevent malaria in children in October 2021.
- Malaria is a life-threatening disease caused by the plasmodium parasite, which is transmitted
 to humans through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes.
 - As per World Malaria report 2023, there were 249 million cases of malaria in 2022 compared to 247 million cases in 2021.
 - In 2022, the **African Region** bore the heaviest malaria burden, with 94% of cases and **95% of deaths globally.**
- India accounted for 1.4% of total malaria cases in the world and saw a 30% decline in malaria cases and 34% decline in deaths in 2022 as compared to the 2021.

Read more: R21/Matrix-M Malaria Vaccine

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