

***Plasmodium falciparum* histidine-rich protein-2 (pHRP-2) is a cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) biomarker for cerebral malaria (CM)**

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Abstract

Background: Cerebral malaria (CM) causes a rapidly developing comatose state and remains a major contributor to morbidity and mortality in malaria-endemic regions. CM may be diagnosed during life by the presence of Plasmodium/INS; falciparum parasitemia, clinical assessment and retinal changes. The plasma level of pHRP-2, a malaria histidine- and alanine-rich protein, identifies children with histologically confirmed or retinopathy-positive CM with high specificity and sensitivity. We sought to determine whether pHRP-2 levels in the CSF were detectable in CM cases.