

## **TAFENOQUINE: A NEW 8-AMINOQUINOLINE FOR THE TREATMENT OF *P. VIVAX* MALARIA**

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Tafenoquine (WR238605) is a new 8-aminoquinoline under co-development by Division of Experimental Therapeutics/WRAIR and GlaxoSmithKline. *In vitro* studies have demonstrated greater efficacy than primaquine against hepatic and blood stages of both *Plasmodium falciparum* and *P. vivax* malaria. Like its analogue, primaquine, it is an oxidant that limits use in G6-PD deficient persons. The longer half-life of tafenoquine (approximately 15 days) makes it a particularly attractive alternative to current primaquine regimens for radical cure of *Plasmodium vivax*. Several trials of tafenoquine for radical cure of *Plasmodium vivax* have been performed in Thailand and with Australian troops deployed in malarious areas. Phase II trials for radical cure in adults in Thailand show efficacy in three day regimens and as small as a single dose. These studies will be reviewed and future prospects for development including a pediatric indication will be discussed.

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