



International Malaria Conference 2026 Emphasises Global Collaboration to Accelerate Malaria Elimination

Three-day conference highlights the importance of discovery, development and delivery of innovations for malaria elimination

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The International Malaria Conference (IMC) 2026, organised by the ICMR–National Institute of Malaria Research (ICMR–NIMR) under the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), concluded successfully in New Delhi after three days of intensive scientific deliberations and global engagement. Held from 7th to 9th March 2026, the conference brought together scientists, public health experts, policymakers and researchers from India and across the world to discuss innovative approaches and strategies for malaria elimination.

The conference was organised under the theme “Discovery, Development and Delivery: Driving Malaria Elimination and Beyond.” It served as an important platform for sharing scientific knowledge, strengthening partnerships and discussing emerging challenges in malaria control and elimination.

Delivering the welcome address, Dr. Anup Anvikar, Director, ICMR–National Institute of Malaria Research, emphasised the critical importance of collaboration among research institutions, national programmes and global partners. He noted that sustained scientific innovation, combined with strong public health systems and partnerships, is essential to accelerate progress towards malaria elimination.

Among the dignitaries present, Dr. Tanu Jain, Director, National Centre for Vector Borne Diseases Control (NCVBDC), highlighted India’s continued commitment and strategic efforts towards malaria control and elimination. She emphasised the importance of strengthening surveillance systems, improving early diagnosis and treatment, and enhancing community participation to achieve the national malaria elimination targets.

Scientific sessions under the Discovery theme focused on advances in parasite biology, transmission dynamics and emerging molecular mechanisms that influence malaria persistence and drug resistance. Experts shared insights into new scientific findings that could support more effective malaria control strategies.

Sessions under the Development theme highlighted innovations in malaria diagnostics, research tools and technologies aimed at improving surveillance and disease detection. The conference also provided a platform for early-career researchers to present their work through turbo talks and poster presentations, encouraging the exchange of ideas and fostering the next generation of malaria researchers.

The final day of the conference focused on the Delivery theme, emphasising the translation of scientific discoveries into practical public health interventions and operational strategies. Experts discussed approaches to address residual malaria transmission, advances in vaccine research, and community-based strategies for strengthening malaria control programmes.

The conference also provided an opportunity for students and young researchers to interact with leading scientists, mentors and industry experts. These interactions offered valuable insights into research translation, innovation and emerging career opportunities in malaria research and public health.

The conference concluded with a valedictory session, reaffirming the collective commitment of the scientific and public health community to accelerate malaria elimination efforts and contribute to the global vision of a malaria-free world.



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