

Clinical and Laboratory Diagnosis of Malaria in Surat Thani, Southern Thailand

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Abstract : Malaria infection is still to be considered a major public health problem in Thailand. This study, a retrospective data of patients in Surat Thani Province, Southern Thailand during 2012-2015 was retrieved and analyzed. These data include demographic data, clinical characteristics and laboratory diagnosis. Statistical analyses were performed to demonstrate the frequency, proportion, data tendency, and group comparisons. Total of 395 malaria patients were found. Most of patients were male (253 cases, 64.1%). Most of patients (262 cases, 66.3%) were admitted at 6 am-11.59 am of the day. Three hundred and fifty-five patients (97.5%) were positive with *P. falciparum*. Hemoglobin, hematocrit, and MCHC between *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax* were significant different (P value<0.05). During 2012-2015, prevalence of malaria was highest in 2013. Neutrophils, lymphocytes, and monocytes were significantly changed among patients with fever \leq 3 days compared with patients with fever $>$ 3 days. This information will guide to understanding pathogenesis and characteristic of malaria infection in Southern Thailand.

Keywords : prevalence, malaria, Surat Thani, Thailand

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