

# SUMMARY OF KEY SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS TO ADVANCE *P. vivax* mRNA VACCINE DEVELOPMENT

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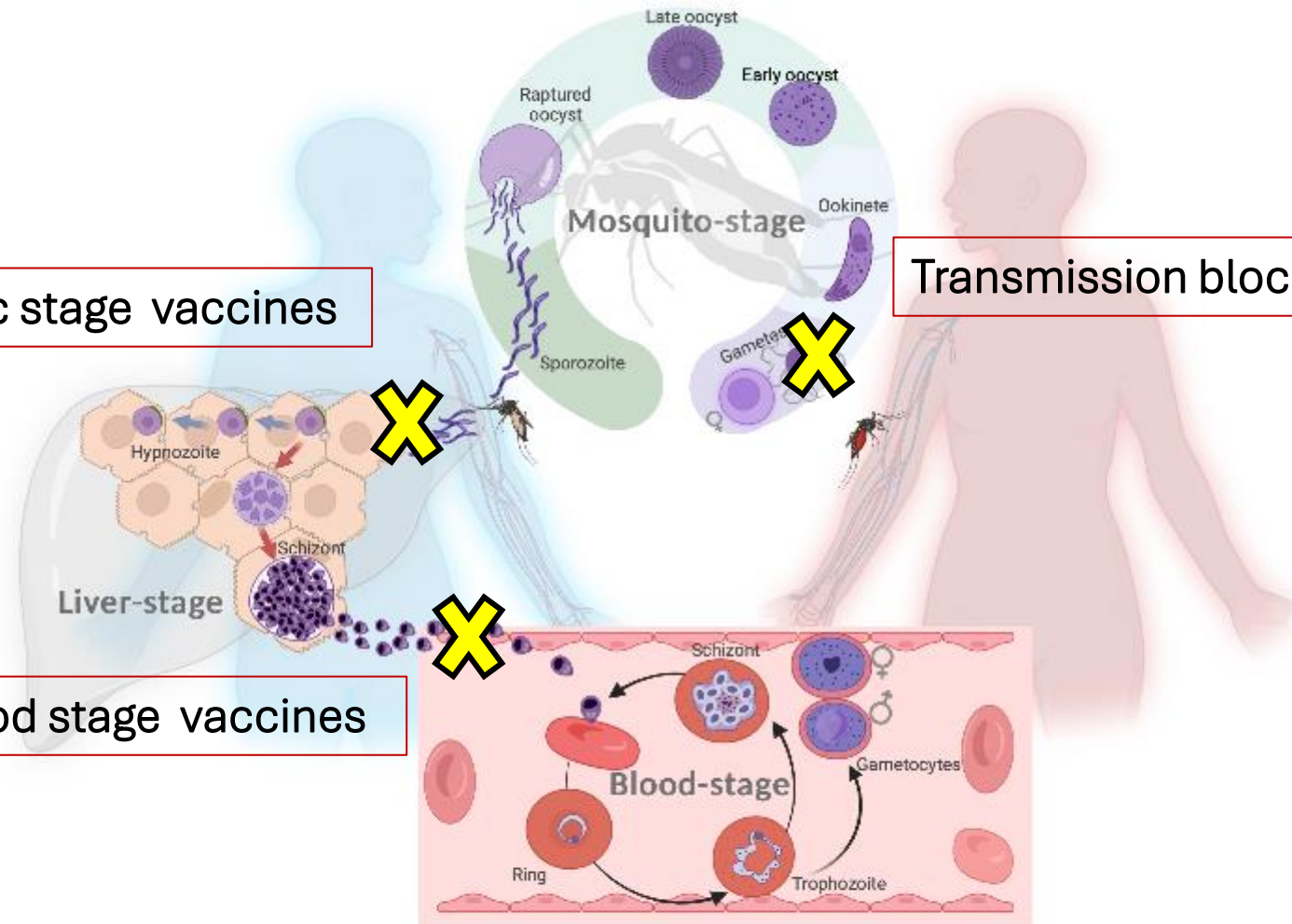
MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY, BANGKOK, THAILAND

# Malaria transmission life cycle

Pre-erythrocytic stage vaccines

Transmission blocking vaccine

Blood stage vaccines



# FUNDING FOR CURRENT *Plasmodium vivax* mRNA ANTIGEN VACCINE DISCOVERY @ MVRU

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- GHIT for transmission blocking vaccines
- Fundamental Fund from Ministry of Higher Education Science & Research Innovation for pre-erythrocytic stage vaccines
- Wellcome Trust for Establishment of CHMI for *P. vivax* (collaboration between MVRU, Mahidol U. & Mahidol Oxford Research Unit (Oxford U.))

# KEY SCIENTIFIC CONSIDERATIONS

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- Liver stage hypnozoite: causing relapse, inducing multiple episodes of symptom, challenging to transmission interruption /elimination
- Multiple vectors in endemic countries, relatively more vectors susceptible to *P. vivax* comparing to *P. falciparum*
- Limited drugs of to cure relapse and they cannot be used in G6PD deficiency patients
- More population at risk globally, including Africa due establishment of *Anopheles stephensi*.
- Not deadly parasite by itself but can be severe when co-infection with other diseases
- A few of *P. vivax* vaccine candidates (protein/DNA) were poised to enter Phase 1/2 trials but there was not efficacious enough for further development.

# KEY TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

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- No continuous *in vitro* culture thus R&D of *P. vivax* drugs and vaccines is limited
- Humanized mouse model is established for liver & blood stages research there are other concern including high cost and production sources ( ~ US\$5,000 per mouse)
- Additional capacity on production of local vector & establishment of more field laboratories to perform research on *P. vivax* are will accerelate R&D of *P. vivax* vaccines

## AVAILABLE RESOURCES IN ASIA

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- Establishment of Controlled Human Malaria Infection (CHMI) for *P. vivax* in Thailand
- High prevalence of *P. vivax* in Asia
- There are biopharmaceutical companies producing GMP products (Proteins, DNA and mRNA vaccines)

# CONSORTIUM CAPACITY FOR *Plasmodium vivax* mRNA VACCINES R&D

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- Antigen discovery for single and multiple stages *P. vivax* mRNA vaccines
- Assays to evaluate the vaccines efficacy (*in vitro*, *ex vivo*, *in vivo*)
- Mouse and non-human primate model to determine go/no go for further development
- GMP production of mRNA vaccines for Phase 1/2 trials
- CHMI for *P. vivax*
- Funding to support at each developmental stages

# ESTIMATED COST AND TIMELINE FOR *P. vivax* mRNA VACCINES R&D

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YR1:US\$ 450,000

- ❖ antigen discovery (6 antigens in mice)
- ❖ preclinical test (2 Antigens in monkeys)

YR 2:

- ❖ US\$ 450,000-900,000 for Phase 1 (CHMI)
- ❖ US\$ 3,200,000 for GMP production of mRNA vaccines (enough for phase 1&2)



QUESTIONS??