

Artemisia tea cannot be used as malaria prevention

ITM warns not to neglect preventive measures against malaria.

26-04-18



Dit is de omschrijving

Malaria is a serious tropical disease. Each year, Belgian travelers get malaria, which sometimes leads to life-threatening situations.

Tea made from the *Artemisia annua* plant has received quite some attention recently. More and more, travel clinics in Belgium see malaria patients who only drink *Artemisia* tea as the sole preventive measure against malaria in areas where the disease occurs. They usually do not follow the proposed preventive measures such as taking malaria pills, applying mosquito-repellents and sleeping under an insecticide-treated bed net.

It's safe to drink *Artemisia* tea, but it is not a prevention medicine. Its advantages and disadvantages to prevent malaria are unknown and as such insufficiently investigated. *Artemisia* tea should not be used to replace the existing prevention measures against malaria.