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New compound promises to treat malaria in a single dose

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Singapore: A new treatment against malaria in mice has proven to be effective in killing the parasite and help to prevent from spreading. Researchers are hopeful that the clinical trials of the new compound should begin next year.

The compound expected to cost about $1 per dose along with the costs for existing treatments. The team said,"The chemical compound of this potential drug is different from any other antimalarial compound in that it interacts at many different stages of the parasite life cycle."

"Before the compounds could be given to the patients, there are some more work to be done. But, we are now excited by the progress that as a group we have made," said, Dr Ian Gilbert, University of Dundee and a lead researcher for this new discovery.

"Clinical trials would soon be set up, if things goes right then it won't take much time for the compound to hit the market in next five years. But, there were some important advancements that took place and which was needed to make before anything of that sort could happen," said, Mr Colin Sutherland, London School of Hygiene at tropical Medicine to SciDevNet.

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