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Ranbaxy to launch malaria drug in 7 African countries

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Singapore: Ranbaxy Laboratories, recently announced that the company has received approval to launch its new drug, Synriam, in seven African countries namely Nigeria, Uganda, Senegal, Cameroon, Guinea, Kenya, and Ivory Coast. The company said in a statement that the product will be made available in other countries by the end of January 2015.

The drug Synriam is a next generation antibiotic recommended to treat uncomplicated malaria in adults. The drug received approval in 2011 from the Drug Controller General (DCGI), India, and since then has successfully treated around one million patients in India, according to Ranbaxy.

Mr Arun Sawhney, CEO and managing director, Ranbaxy said, "Most malaria cases and deaths occur in sub-Saharan Africa. Synriam is highly effective, affordable and a convenient therapy option, leading to better compliance. We are confident that the drug will help the government and healthcare system in Africa to fight the menace of malaria."

Ranbaxy said in a statement that the new drug is in line with the WHO recommendations and can be used as a combination therapy to treat malaria. Synriam provides quick relief from most malaria-related symptoms, including fever, and has a high cure rate of over 95 percent.