



# MALARIA TAG

### Materials Needed:

- White, brown and red paper
- Space large and safe enough for a game of tag
- A mosquito net

### Instructions:

Designate and clear an area large enough for a game of tag fitting for the size of your group of participants (if you are indoors you may consider instructing people to walk, rather than run, during the activity).

Label four areas as follows:

Cut the brown paper into roughly 2" by 2" pieces, less than twice as many as the number of participants (for example, for 10 participants, cut out 16 pieces of brown paper). You may want to label the individual pieces "food" (**a template is included in the Helpful Handouts section**). Place the pieces at the Food station.

Cut the red paper into roughly 2" by 2" pieces, the same number of pieces as participants (for example, for 10 participants, cut out 10 pieces of red paper). You may want to label these pieces as "medicine" (**again, a template is included in the Helpful Handouts section**) You, acting as the Doctor, will keep them and hand them out to participants seeking treatment.

Hang up the net at the Bed Net station, or have two volunteers hold it up. The net is a safe space where mosquitoes cannot bite the players. However, they can only remain under the net for 10 seconds, and then they must move on. Two people can be under the net at the same time.

As the Doctor, you will be moving around throughout the activity. Players will be instructed to find you once they have been tagged by a Mosquito. When they come to you for treatment, they must have a food card. If they do not have a food card, instruct them to visit the Food station and come back. If they are tagged again on the way to the Food station, they must sit down.

Thanks to ELCA Malaria Campaign, 2015



### MALARIA TAG (CONTINUED)

If they come to you a second time for treatment, they must have two food cards (you will know they have come a second time because they will already have a red card).

When all the medicine cards have been handed out, let them know you cannot offer any more treatment, and the next time they are tagged they will have to sit down. You may want to play a couple of rounds so the participants can get the hang of it.

#### Instructions:

1. Have all the players line up at the starting line.
2. Show them where the Bed Net station and Food station are. Identify yourself (the presenter) as the Doctor.
3. Choose which player will serve as the Mosquito ("it" in a typical game of tag) – select one player to be a Mosquito for every five people playing and have the Mosquitoes stand in the center of the playing field. A Mosquito's goal is to tag as many people as possible.
4. Depending on whether the activity is inside or outside, instruct the players to run or walk.
5. Tell the players to try to reach the Food station to get a food card.
6. Explain that the Bed Net station is a safe zone that can hold two players at a time. Players can take their turn in the bed net for 10 seconds at a time (use 1 potato, 2 potato, or the like for timing purposes). Players take their turn in the safe zone, until they are "counted out" by another player.
7. If a player is tagged by the Mosquito they must immediately find the Doctor to receive medicine to treat their malaria. They must have a food card to receive treatment.
8. Once treatment is received, the player can go on with the activity.
9. If a player is tagged twice without receiving treatment, they are out of the activity and the person must sit down where they were tagged the second time.
10. If a player is tagged by a Mosquito again after they received treatment the first time, they must go to receive treatment again. Remember that the player will need to have at least TWO food cards to see the Doctor again.
11. The activity ends when all (or most) of the players are sitting down.
12. Depending on time, play again (it may take a run through to get the gist of the activity).

#### PROCESSING THE ACTIVITY:

Ask the group:

1. What was your experience during the activity?
2. What were the obstacles to getting treatment in the activity? What obstacles to getting treatment do you think there are in real life? (Access to a doctor or medicines [could be on account of distance needed to travel, difficulty traveling when sick, cost of medicine, etc.]; need for food to use the medicine.)
3. Why do you think people who did not have food did not receive treatment? (Hard to travel to get the medicine when you are hungry; need for food for medicine to be effective.)
4. Why were the food and bed nets in the activity so important? (Food needed for treatment, bed nets for protection.)