



**PRESS RELEASE 9-20-03
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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NEW MALARIA CASE CONFIRMED-- TOTAL NOW 8

PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL—The Palm Beach County Health Department confirmed the eighth case of malaria today in a 26- year- old male from western Lake Worth. He is under going treatment and is expected to get better. **A medical alert for all of Palm Beach County for mosquito-borne disease remains in effect.**

During the medical alert mosquito control has been increasing its aerial, ground and larvacidal spraying in an effort to reduce the mosquito population. All county residents are being advised to avoid mosquito bites. **If a person has been severely ill with high fever, vomiting, dizziness, headache and teeth chattering shivers they should report to their doctor or nearest hospital, advises Health Department Director Jean Malecki, M.D..**

Malaria is a parasitic disease carried by the Anopheles mosquito and can be treated. The symptoms vary depending on which of the four human malaria strains has been contracted. All eight cases have been confirmed to be the Plasmodium vivax strain contracted locally.

Precautions residents should take include: Dressing in long Sleeves, long pants and socks when outside from **Dusk to Dawn**, Use an insect repellent containing **DEET**, **Drain** any standing water from around the house and repair any broken screens or windows.

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