



The malaria parasite depends on both humans and mosquitoes to carry out its deadly cycle of life.

1 Infected mosquito bites a human.

2 Parasite rapidly goes to liver within 30 minutes.

3 The parasite starts reproducing rapidly in liver. Some parasites lie dormant in the liver and become activated years after initial infections.

4 Gets into the blood stream, attaches and enters red blood cells. Further reproduction occurs.

5 Infected red blood cells burst, infecting other blood cells.

7 After release, a dormant version of malaria travels through the host's blood stream, waiting to be ingested by another mosquito to carry it to a new host.

6 This repeating cycle depletes the body of oxygen and also causes fever. The cycle coincides with malaria's fever and chills.

