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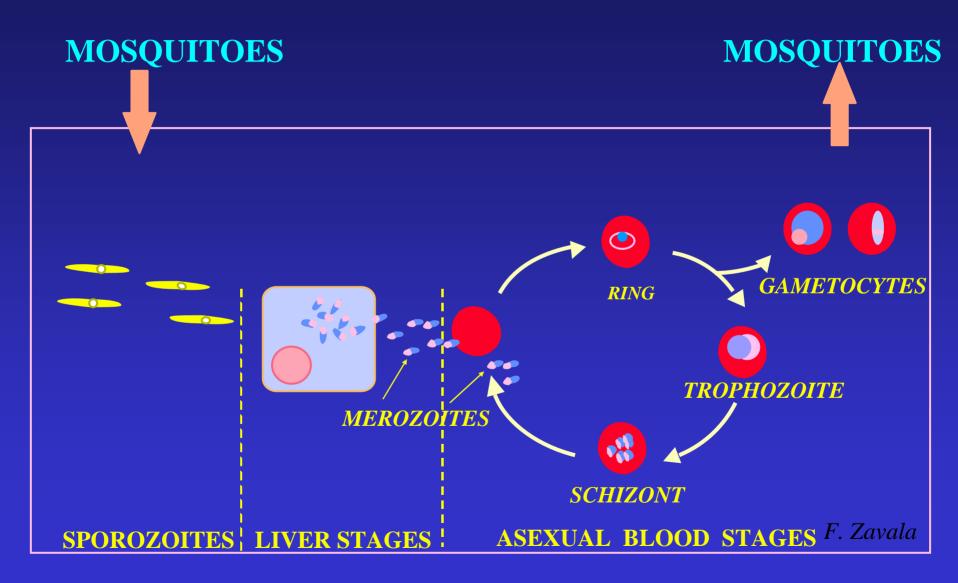


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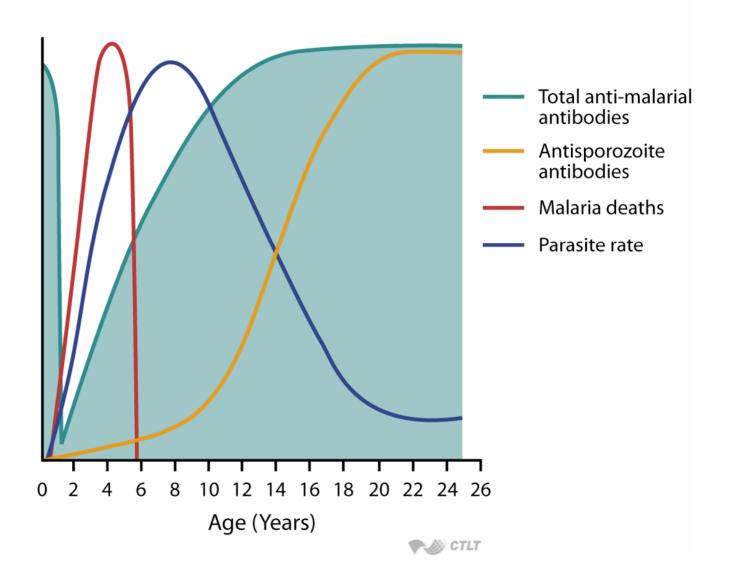
## IMMUNITY TO MALARIA

Fidel Zavala

## Plasmodium Life Cycle



## Age-Related Changes in Anti-Malarial Antibody Levels in Relation to Parasite Rates and Mortality in a West African Population



### Plasmodium Stages

SPOROZOITE (Serum)

LIVER (Hepatocytes)

BLOOD (Erythrocytes) MEROZOITES (Serum)









F. Zavala

- \* LIVE IN DIFFERENT ENVIRONMENTS
- \* EXPRESS DIFFERENT ANTIGENS

\* SUSCEPTIBLE TO DIFFERENT IMMUNE MECHANISMS

# Immune Responses to Pre-Erythrocytic States

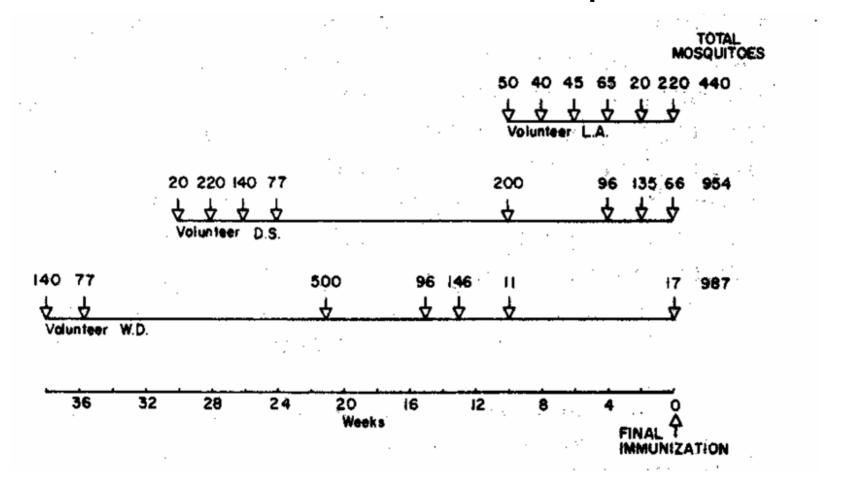


- Mosquitoes inject dozens of sporozoites into the dermis
- Parasites reach the blood and infect hepatocytes

### Sporozoite-Induced Immune Response

- Normal exposure to parasites does not induce a response strong enough to protect against infection.
- In experimental immunizations, large immunizing doses are required to achieve protection

## Immunization of Humans with *P. falciparum*-Infected Irradiated Mosquitoes



ANTIGENS?
PROTECTIVE IMMUNE MECHANISMS???

## Antibodies Abolish Sporozoite Infectivity



Photograph courtesy of Masamichi Aikawa

## Antibodies Against The Sporozoite Surface Inhibit

Parasite Motility

Hepatocyte Invasion

They can confer sterile immunity...

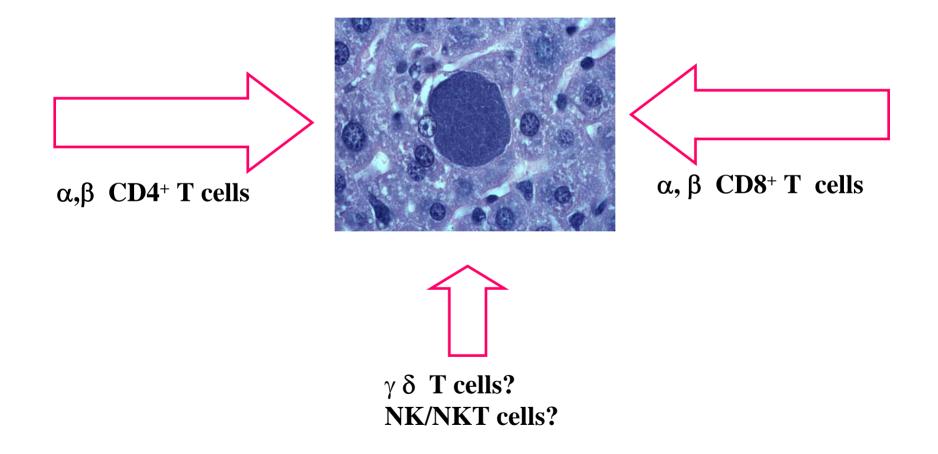
## Sterile Protection Against Sporozoite-Induced Infection

High levels of antibodies

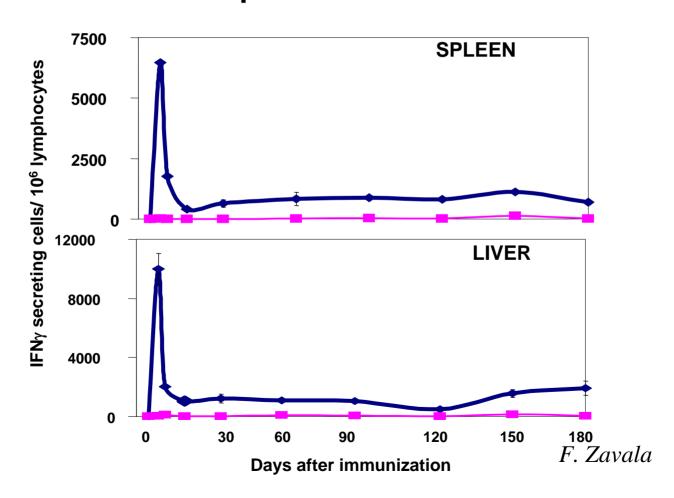
High binding affinity

Maintained for a long time

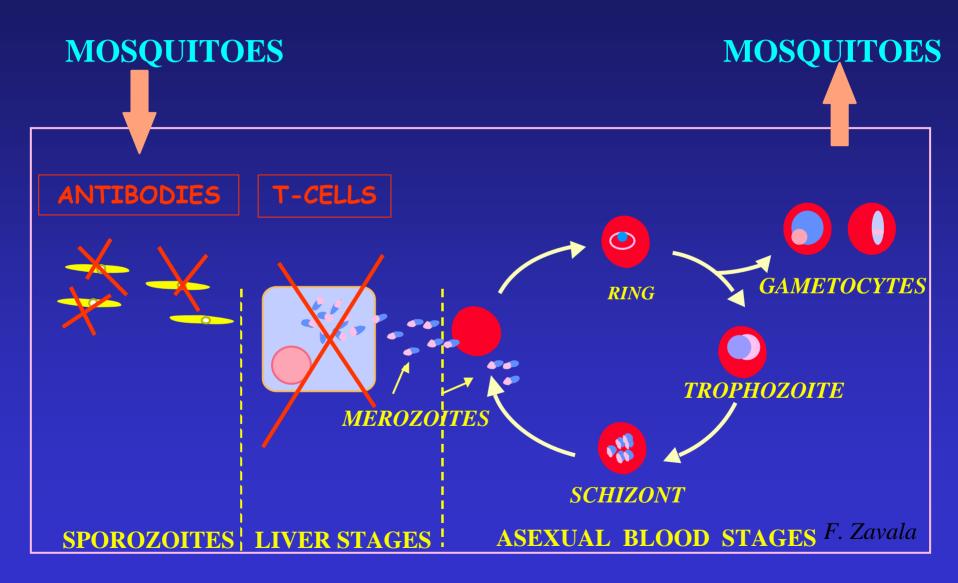
## Immunity To Malaria Liver Stages



## Persistence of the CD8+ T Cell Response After a Immunization with Sporozoites



## Plasmodium Life Cycle



## **Natural Immunity?**

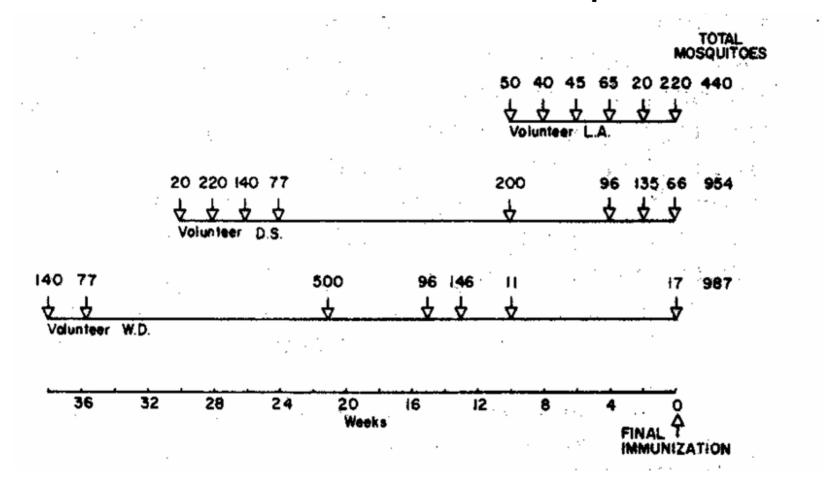
- It is difficult to become immune by natural exposure
- Serum titers from natural infected individuals to sporozoite antigen in IFA is in low hundreds in contrast to immunized individuals with titers in thousands

## Identification Of *P. Falciparum* CD8+ T-Cell Epitopes Recognized By Humans

Specific amino acid residues composing epitopes from CSP, SSP2, EXP1, LSA1, and PfS16 proteins

But at very low levels .....

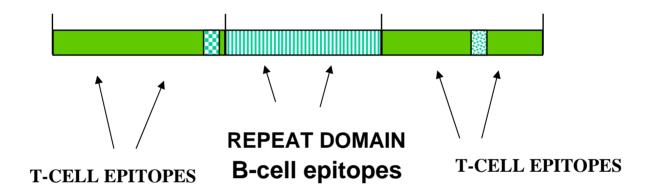
## Immunization of Humans with *P. falciparum*-Infected Irradiated Mosquitoes



This is a vaccine but is impractical...

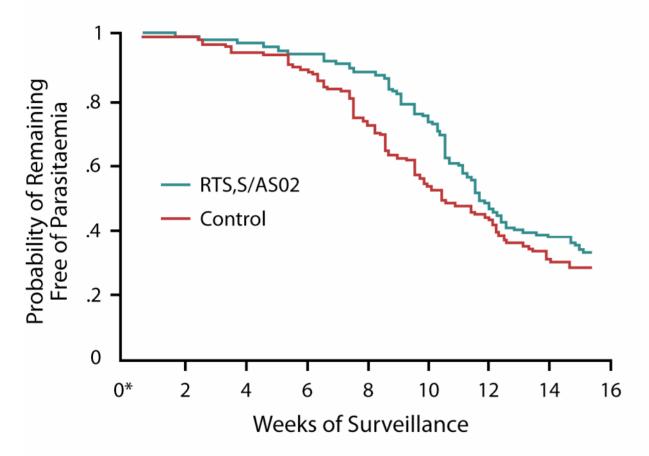
## Vaccine Development

The CS protein is present in sporozoites and liver stages.



- Induction of specific antibodies
- Induction of anti-liver stage T cells

### Probability of Remaining Free of *P. falciparum* Infection During Fifteen Weeks of Surveillance in 1998



NUMBER AT RISK	
RTS,S/AS02	Control
131	119
129	118
125	110
118	101
110	82
90	60
58	47
45	33

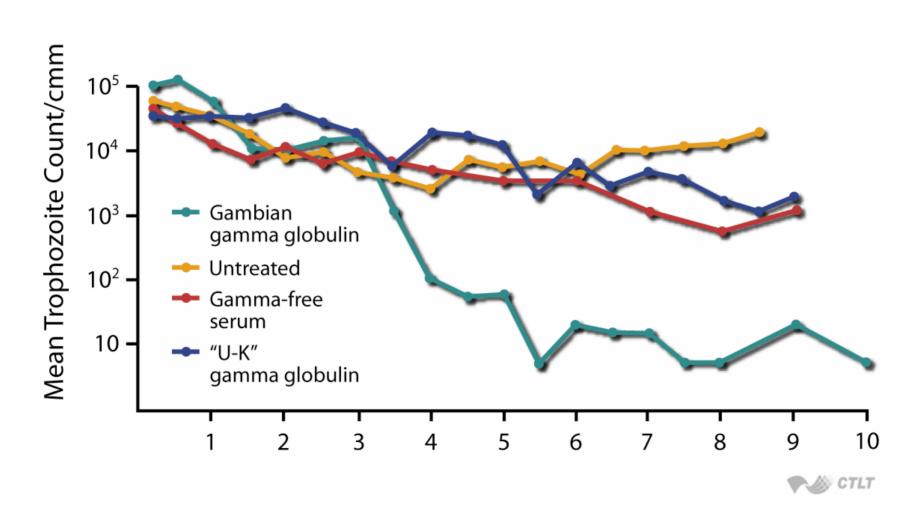
Adapted by CTLT from Bojang et al. Lancet 2001, 358;1927



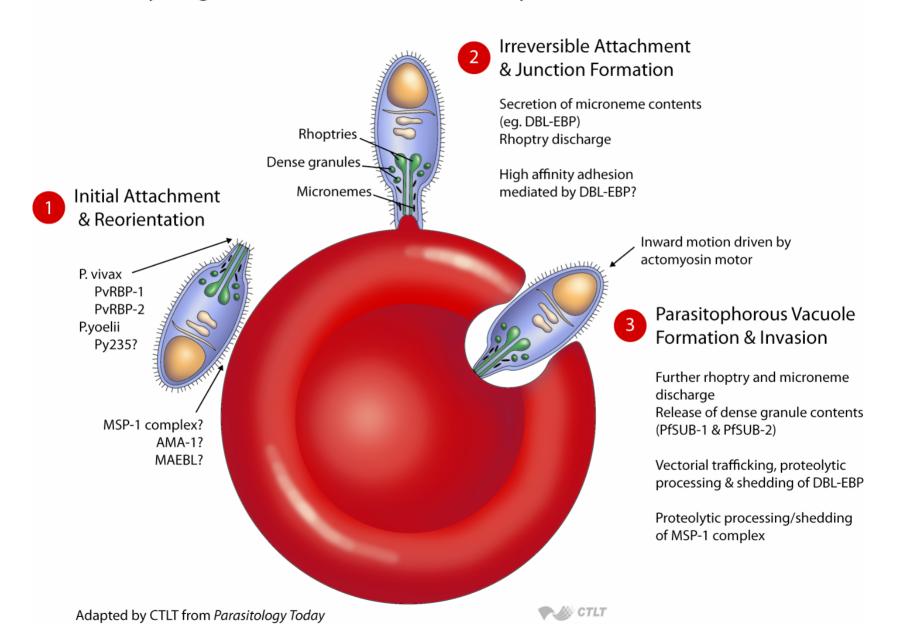
<sup>\*</sup> Week 0 of surveillance began in September, 1998, 14 days after dose 3 of vaccine was administered.

# Immune Responses to Erythrocytic Stages

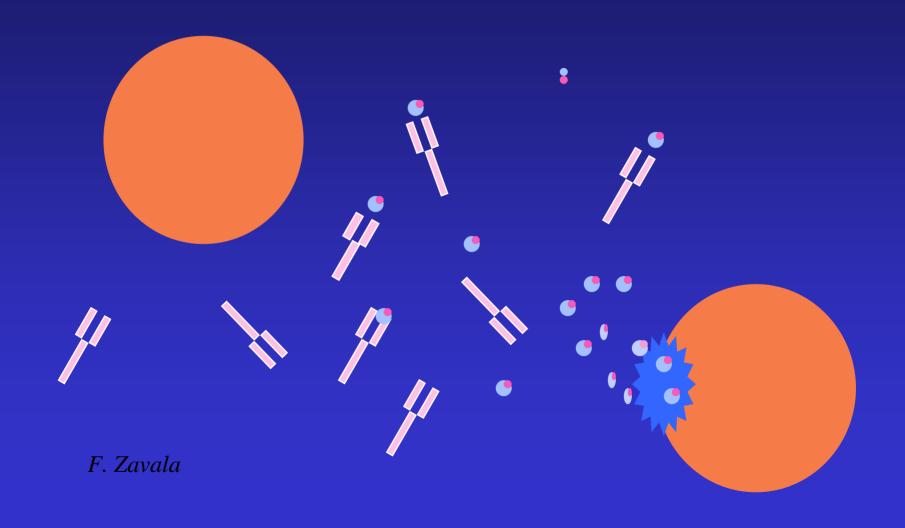
## Passive Transfer of Immunity to *P. falciparum* in Children



#### Early Stages of Red Blood Cell Invasion by the Malaria Merozoite



## Antibodies Inhibit Merozoite Infection of Erythrocytes

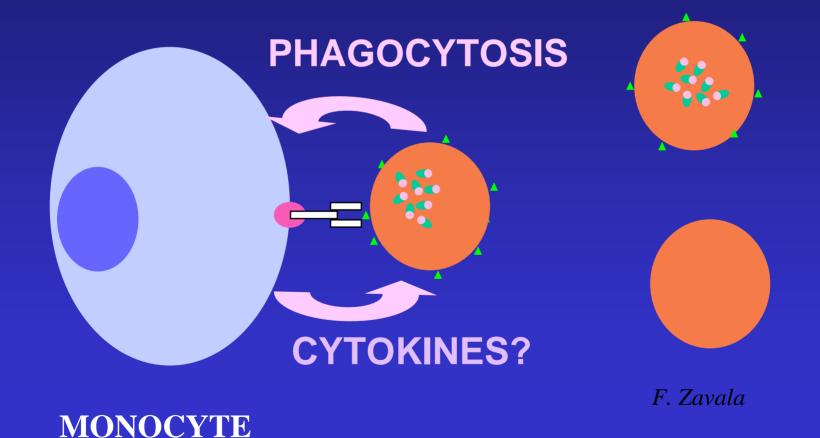


## Antigens Of Asexual Blood Stages Recognized By Protective Immune Responses

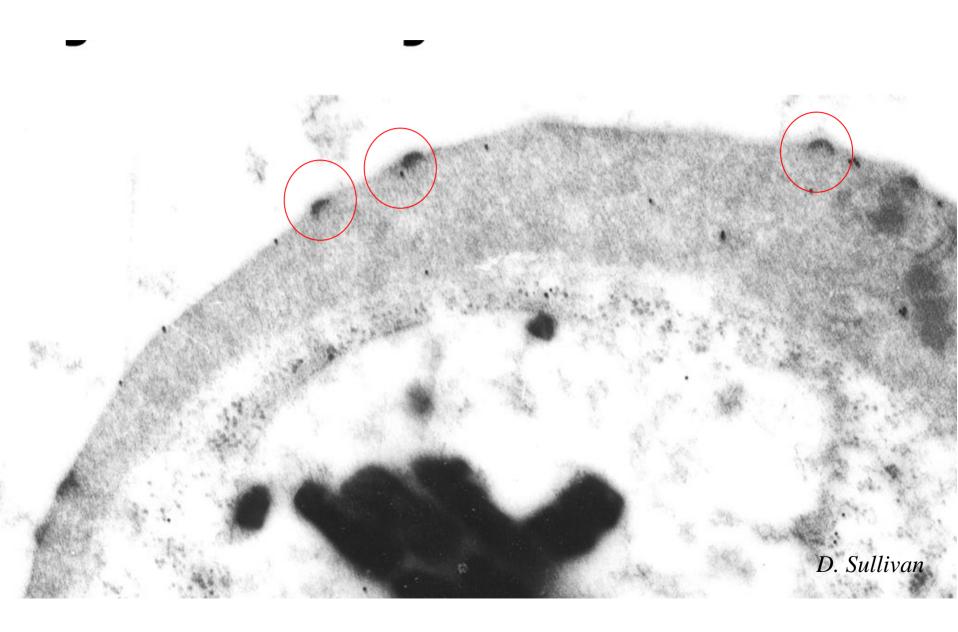
- Merozoite surface protein-1
- Merozoite surface protein-1 -2
- Dense granule-RESA
- Microneme- EBA-175
- Rhoptry
  - AMA-1, rhoptry-associated protein 1 and 2
  - Rhop-1 and 2
- Red blood cell surface
  - PfEMP-1
  - Pf332
  - Rosettin

Immunization with Merozoite surface antigen protected monkeys from death during course of infection of *Plasmodium falciparum* (FUP strain) in vaccinated monkeys (*Aotus trivirgatus*)

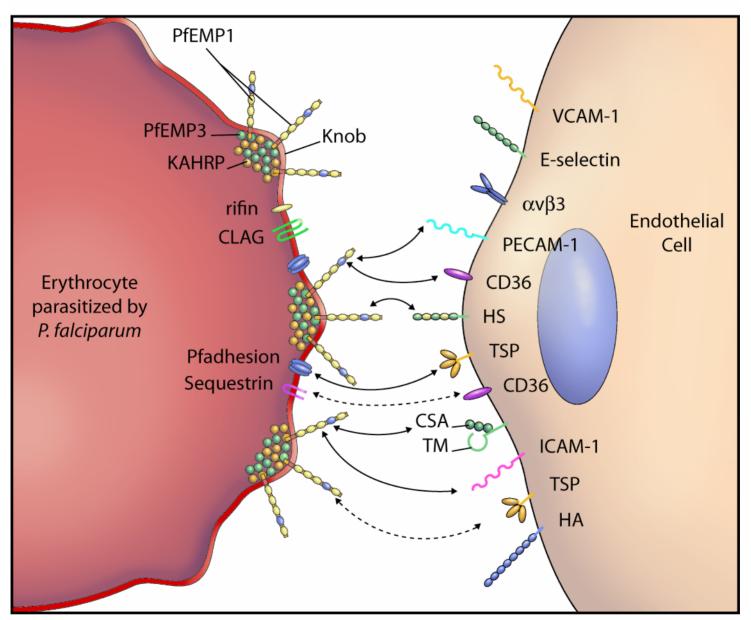
## Monocyte-Antibody Mediated Inhibition of Parasite Growth



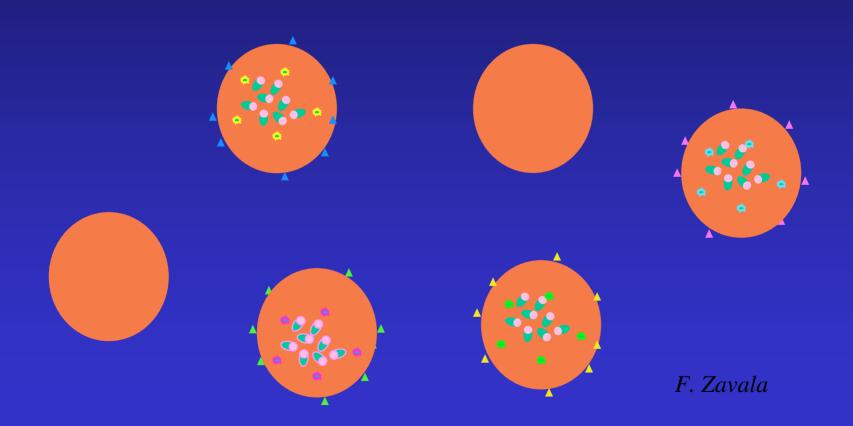
"Knobs" In P. Falciparum Infected Erythrocyte



#### P. falciparum Cytoadherence

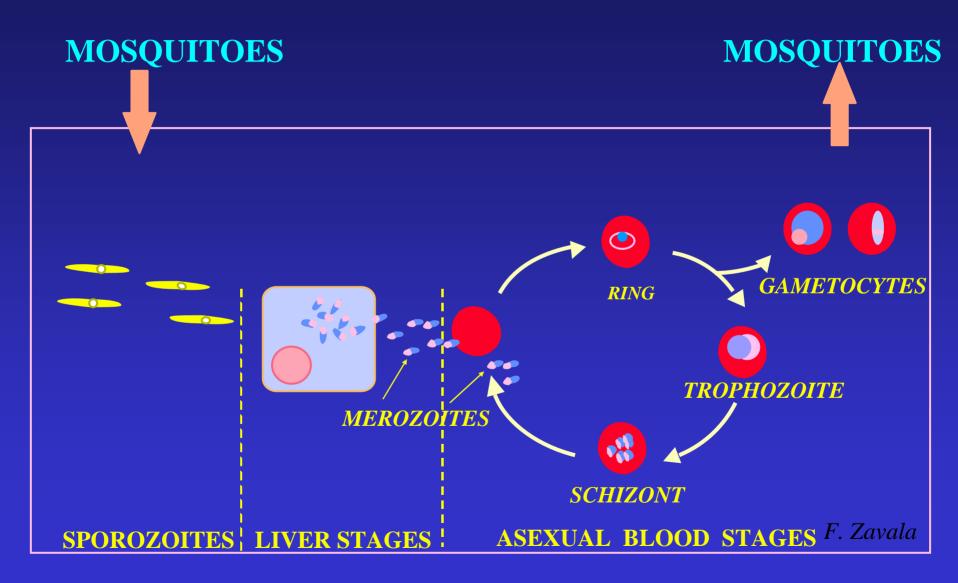


## Extensive Antigen Polymorphism in Malaria Parasites

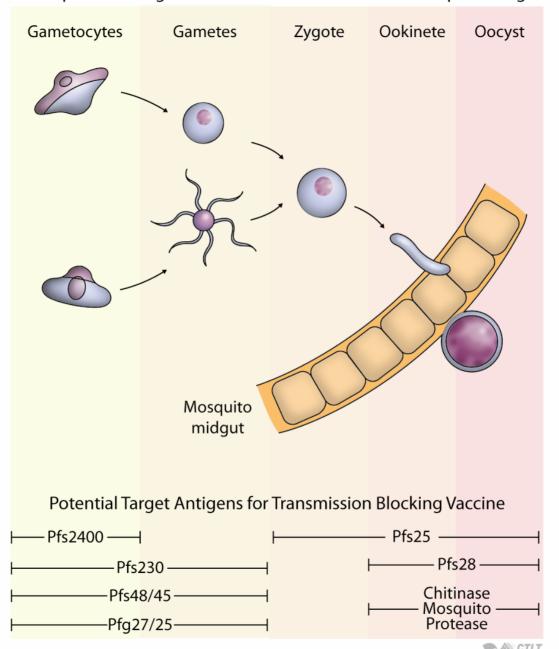


# Immune Responses to Sexual Stages

## Plasmodium Life Cycle



#### Developmental Stages of the Malaria Parasite in the Mosquito Midgut



### TBV Concept

Immunize people



Antibodies picked up by the mosquito during blood feed will stop parasite's development in the mosquito

(NON-INFECTIOUS MOSQUITOES)



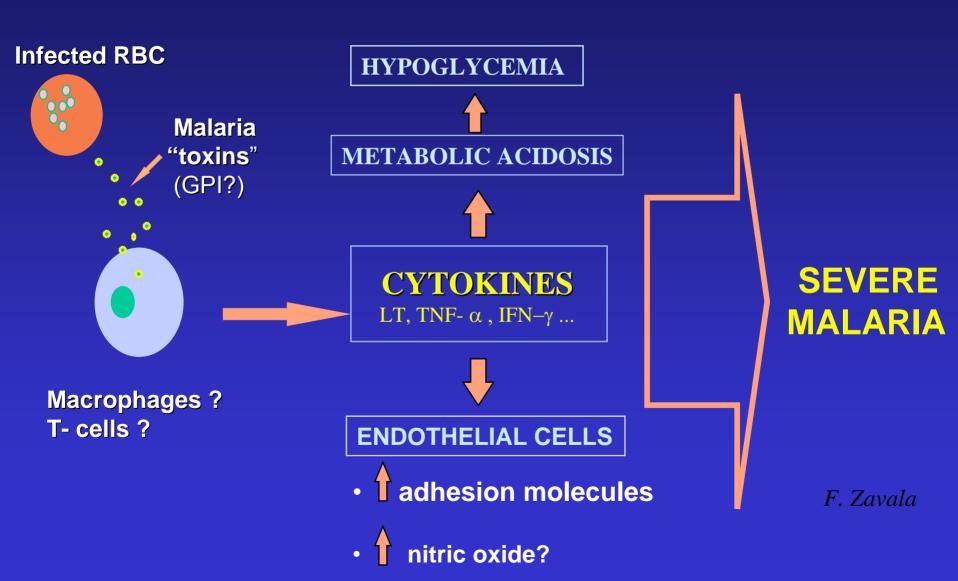
No further Malaria Transmission

## Immunopathology

## **Anti-Parasite Immune Responses May....**

- \* Abolish parasite development
- \* Attenuate parasite infection
- \* Be ineffectual or irrelevant
- \* Exacerbate disease

### CEREBRAL MALARIA: PATHOGENESIS

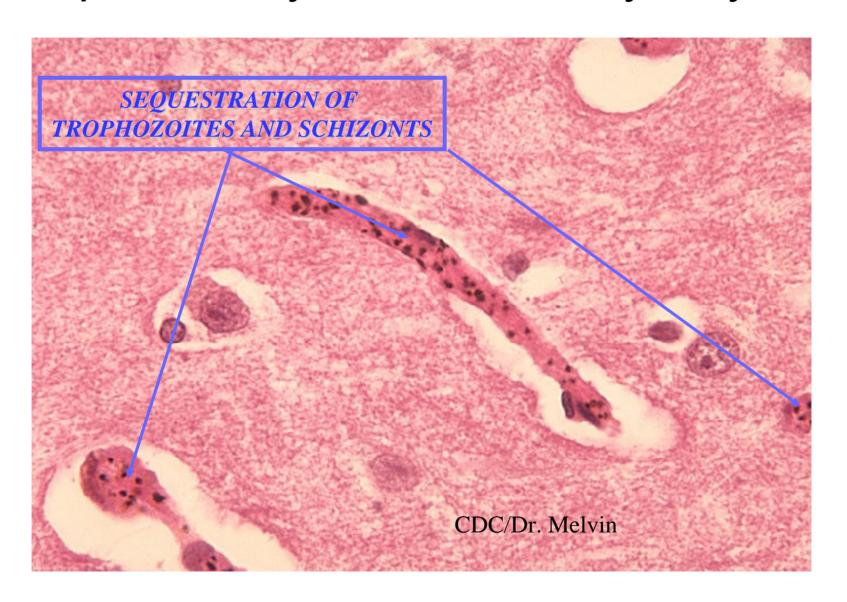


### Severe Malaria

CEREBRAL MALARIA:

confusion, stupor, delirium, convulsions, paralysis, coma...

## Cerebral Malaria: Obstruction Of Small Capillaries By Parasitized Erytrocytes

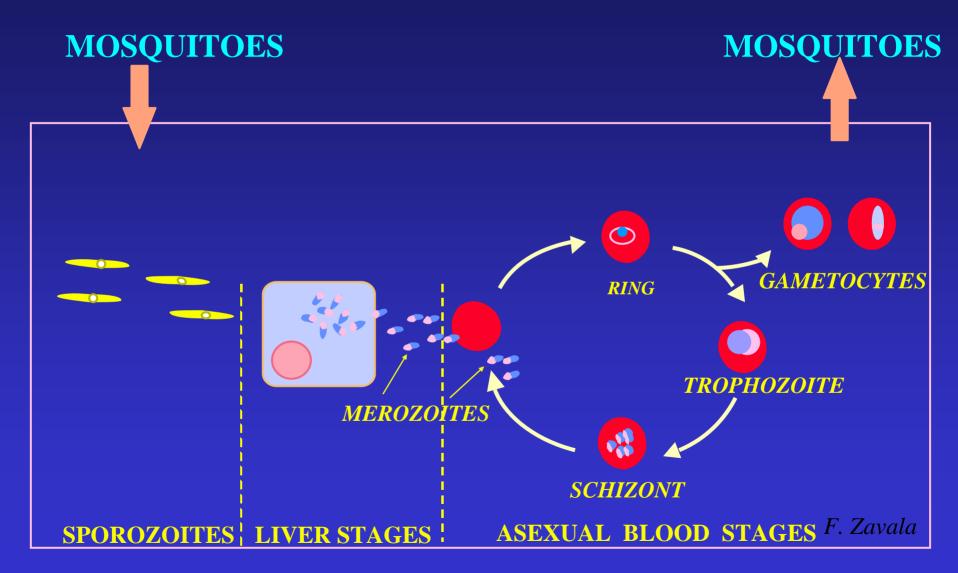


### **Anemia**

- Erythrocyte destruction
  - Release of parasites
  - Phagocytosis

- Dyserythropoiesis
  - $-TNF-\alpha$
  - –INF-γ

### Vaccine Targets



**ALL STAGES...** 

## **Immunity Against Malaria**

PARTIAL

Attenuates Infection

STERILE

**Abolishes Infection**