Malaria is an infectious disease with high morbidity and mortality rates worldwide. By 2030, the World Health Organization is targeting the elimination of malaria in all countries. To accelerate malaria elimination, strategies and innovations are needed based on the characteristics of each region.¹

Malaria in Indonesia is endemic, with more than 79% of malaria cases in Indonesia originate from Papua Province.² Factors that influence the high prevalence of malaria in Papua include geographic conditions, the presence of vectors, community characteristics, and health services. The challenge of malaria elimination in Indonesia is not only in the Papua region but also in areas with cases of indigenous, imported, and submicroscopic malaria.³,⁴

From 2011 to 2015, the prevalence of malaria decreased significantly, but it stagnant until 2018. This condition shows that the program has not run optimally, especially to reduce malaria cases, so the involvement of various sectors is crucial. Cross-sector cooperation needs to be optimized, which includes surveillance, vector control, monitoring, and program evaluation.⁴,⁵ Apart from routine malaria programs, innovation is also needed to support existing programs.⁵,⁶

Progress in the elimination program in Indonesia in 2018 is that 285 districts/cities in Indonesia had received a malaria elimination certificate.² Other regions are definitely in the process of working towards eliminating malaria. Several aspects related to the success of the malaria elimination program include the availability of health personnel both in terms of quality and quantity, availability of adequate malaria logistics, cross-sector coordination, community involvement, well-functioning programs, and supportive local government policies.⁷ With the commitment and solid cooperation of various parties, eliminating malaria in Indonesia in 2030 should not be an arduous effort.

REFERENCES