AAA Recognizes World Malaria Day with a Virtual Issue on Infectious Diseases

In a special digital issue of *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*, the American Anthropological Association (AAA) honors World Malaria Day, recognized April 25, with the re-release of articles which demonstrate ways that ethnography and human behavior studies help to change care management and public health policy.

“Anthropologists have played an important role in support of major international public health initiatives in the last decade. Their role has been primarily to demonstrate local systems of knowledge and classifications of illness in order to develop appropriate interventions,” said Carl Kendall and his colleagues in this virtual issue’s article “Urbanization, Dengue, and the Health Transition: Anthropological Contributions to International Health.”

*Medical Anthropology Quarterly*’s virtual issue will be available to the public via Wiley Online Library from April 25 to July 15, 2011 at (http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1548-1387/homepage/virtual_issue__malaria___infectious_disease.htm). Wiley-Blackwell is AAA’s publishing partner and host of AnthroSource, an AAA member portal to the Association’s published resources.

Approximately half of the world’s population is at risk of malaria, particularly those living in lower-income countries, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). The WHO calculates that every 30 seconds a child dies of malaria. By joining the global movement to roll back these staggering statics on malaria, anthropologists serve as catalyst around the world to research the medical and cultural impacts of this disease and share their findings to help count malaria out.

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Founded in 1902, the American Anthropological Association is the world’s largest professional organization of anthropologists and others interested in anthropology, with an average annual membership of more than 10,000. The Arlington, VA – based association represents all specialties within anthropology – cultural anthropology, biological (or physical) anthropology, archaeology, linguistics and applied anthropology.