3D model of malaria genome to help understand how disease works

For the first time, scientists have generated a 3D model of the human malaria parasite genome at three different stages in the parasite's life cycle, an advance that could help identify new anti-malaria drugs.

A research team led by University of California, Riverside has generated the first such 3D architecture during the progression of the life cycle of a parasite.

According to the World Health Organisation, an estimated 207 million people were infected with malaria in 2012, leading to 627,000 deaths, researchers said.

"Understanding the spatial organisation of chromosomes is essential to comprehend the regulation of gene expression in any eukaryotic cell," said Karine Le Roch, an associate professor of cell biology and neuroscience, who led the study.

Read the full, original story: 3D structure of malaria parasite genome generated