

## GM mosquito breakthrough: Make them all males

Scientists have hailed the genetic modification of mosquitoes that could crash the insect's populations as a "quantum leap" that will make a substantial and important contribution to eradicating malaria.

Previous efforts to tackle the disease, that kills more than 1 million people each year – most of whom are African children – have included bed nets to protect people and insecticides to kill the mosquito species most responsible for the transmission of malaria (*Anopheles gambiae*).

The new technique by a team at Imperial College London involves injecting mosquitoes with a gene that causes the vast majority of their offspring to be male, leading to an eventual dramatic decline in population within six generations as females disappear.

"You have a short-term benefit because males don't bite humans [and transmit malaria]," Andrea Crisanti, one of the authors of the new research, which was published in the journal *Nature Communications* on Tuesday, told the Guardian.

**Read the full, original story: [GM mosquitoes a 'quantum leap' towards tackling malaria](#)**