

**Supplemental table 1: Eligibility criteria for the different study components**

<b>Cross-sectional study</b>
<p><u>Inclusion criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Showing symptoms suggestive of malaria and/or VL</li> <li>- Living in the catchment area of the study hospital</li> </ul> <p><u>Exclusion criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Already under drug treatment for malaria and/or VL</li> <li>- Having a positive VL diagnosis in their medical history</li> <li>- Pregnant</li> </ul>
<b>Case-control study: patient cases</b>
<p><u>Inclusion criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Included in the cross-sectional study</li> <li>- Having a laboratory-confirmed VL diagnosis and/or malaria diagnosis</li> </ul> <p><u>Exclusion criteria</u></p> <p>None</p>
<b>Case-control study: healthy controls</b>
<p><u>Inclusion criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Living in the village of residence of a VL-infected participant of the cross-sectional study</li> <li>- Living in the current house for at least 1 year</li> <li>- Not showing symptoms suggestive of malaria and/or VL</li> <li>- Negative for malaria with malaria RDT</li> <li>- Negative for VL with rk39 RDT</li> </ul> <p><u>Exclusion criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A positive VL diagnosis in their medical history</li> <li>- A history of clinical malaria in the preceding 2 weeks</li> <li>- Already under drug treatment for malaria and/or VL</li> <li>- Pregnant</li> </ul>
<b>Cohort study: clinically ill patients</b>
<p><u>Inclusion criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Included in the cross-sectional study</li> <li>- Between 6 and 30 years of age</li> <li>- Having a laboratory-confirmed VL diagnosis and/or malaria diagnosis with <i>P. falciparum</i> (parasite counts between 1000 and 250,000 /<math>\mu</math>L of blood only)</li> <li>- Eligible for first-line treatment for VL and/or malaria as stated in the national treatment guidelines</li> </ul> <p><u>Exclusion criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Having a haemoglobin level of <math>\leq 5</math> g/dL</li> <li>- Being diagnosed with malaria caused by a <i>Plasmodium</i> species different than <i>P. falciparum</i></li> <li>- Suffering from any other infectious disease, acute or chronic, different from malaria and/or VL, of which the patient has knowledge</li> <li>- Suffering from any immune system disorder, acute or chronic, of which the patient has knowledge</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Being under antimicrobial and/or anti-inflammatory treatment</li><li>- Being under immune-suppressive or immune-stimulatory treatment</li></ul>
<b>Cohort study: healthy and asymptomatic household members</b>
<p><u>Inclusion criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Living in the household of one of the clinically ill participants of the cohort study</li><li>- 6 years old and above</li><li>- Not showing any major symptoms suggestive of malaria and VL</li><li>- Having a body temperature below 37.5°C</li></ul> <p><u>Exclusion criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A positive VL diagnosis in their medical history</li><li>- A history of clinical malaria in the preceding 2 weeks</li><li>- Already under drug treatment for malaria and/or VL</li><li>- Pregnant</li><li>- Being diagnosed with malaria caused by a <i>Plasmodium</i> species different than <i>P. falciparum</i></li><li>- Suffering from any other infectious disease, acute or chronic, different from malaria and/or VL, of which the patient has knowledge</li><li>- Suffering from any immune system disorder, acute or chronic, of which the patient has knowledge</li><li>- Being under antimicrobial and/or anti-inflammatory treatment</li><li>- Being under immune-suppressive or immune-stimulatory treatment</li></ul>