To the Editors:

Efficacy of a five-day course of primaquine in preventing relapses in *Plasmodium vivax* malaria – a pilot study

A 14-day course of primaquine is recommended for relapse prevention of *Plasmodium vivax* malaria for residents of non-endemic areas (1). But patient compliance is a major issue. We have carried out a pilot study in which six healthy blood donors were given primaquine in a five-day course (2). Of the 6 patients recruited for the pilot study 5 relapsed (as confirmed by the presence of malarial parasites in the blood). The patients who relapsed were treated with chloroquine and oral quinine and paracetamol. The results of the pilot study are preliminary and further studies need to be done to confirm the efficacy of the five-day course.