Chelsea Football Club striker Didier Drogba personally understands the serious threat of malaria. The disease kills more than 50,000 children in his homeland of the Ivory Coast every year. He himself contracted malaria last year, missing several high-profile matches due to its effects.

In July, Vestergaard Frandsen committed to donating several thousand nets to Drogba to protect each child in his village. But these were special nets; imprinted on each is a picture of Drogba playing football, as well as the Chelsea FC logo. His youngest fans can now sleep peacefully under their very own nets; they won’t let the mosquitoes score.
Long-lasting insecticide-treated nets (LLINs) save lives. Score a goal by making sure nets are treated with insecticide, hung properly, tucked in, and free of holes.

Knowing the symptoms of malaria—fever, headache, fatigue, shivering, nausea and vomiting—can help parents get their children tested and treated in a timely manner. When symptoms occur, go to a health clinic for a blood test (rapid diagnostic test, or RDT) and medicine (artemisinin-based combination therapies, or ACTs).

1. When is your net most effective?
   a. When it’s insecticide-treated
   b. When it’s tucked in
   c. When it’s free of holes
   d. All of the above

2. Where do mosquitoes lay their eggs?
   a. In trees
   b. In water
   c. In food

3. Which of the following behaviors help prevent malaria?
   a. Sleeping under a treated mosquito net every night
   b. Taking preventative medicine during pregnancy
   c. Removing standing water near your home
   d. All of the above

1. Sleep under a long-lasting insecticide-treated net every night.
2. At the first signs of fever, go to a health center for malaria testing and treatment (with ACTs).
3. Encourage pregnant women to seek antenatal care to protect their unborn babies from malaria.
Intermittent preventive treatment of malaria in pregnancy (IPTp) is normally offered as part of ante-natal care (ANC) where pregnant women receive two to three doses of Sulfadoxine-Pyrimethamine (SP), which protects both the mother and her unborn baby.

Malaria is a disease caused by parasites transmitted to humans through the bite of the Anopheles mosquito. During a 90-minute game of football, it kills about 120 children, one every 45 seconds.

4. **What causes malaria?**
   a. Eating unripe mango
   b. Getting soaked in the rain
   c. A parasite transmitted through the bite of the female *Anopheles* mosquito

5. **Which of the following are symptoms of malaria?**
   a. Chills
   b. Fever
   c. Nausea
   d. Headache
   e. All of the above

6. **When you have a fever, you should**
   a. Go immediately to a health clinic for a blood test
   b. Take an anti-malaria drug
   c. Wait and see if you feel better

7. **Bonus question: Name all six football players on this page.**

   Quiz answers: 1-d, 2-b, 3-d, 4-c, 5-e, 6-a, 7-Wayne Rooney, England; Steven Pienaar, South Africa; Andres Iniesta, Spain; Cristiano Ronaldo, Portugal; Lionel Messi, Argentina; Samuel Eto'o, Cameroon

**Defense**

Every night, malaria testing and treatment (with ACTs) protect their unborn babies from malaria.
PROTECT YOURSELF.

1. Sleep under a long-lasting insecticide-treated net every night. 2. At first signs of fever, go to a health center for malaria testing and treatment. 3. Encourage pregnant women to seek antenatal care to protect their unborn babies from malaria.

“No African team has ever won the World Cup, and I am positive our success on the football field has been severely held back by malaria. More important, though, is the impact malaria has had on our friends and families. I would ask that we do all we can to stop deaths from this disease.” CECAFA Chair and Tanzania Football Federation President Leodegar Tenga

Founded in the lead-up to the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa, United Against Malaria is an alliance of football teams and heroes, celebrities, health and advocacy organizations, governments and corporations who have united together to end malaria deaths by 2015. We have the tools and the momentum. United, we can beat malaria. www.unitedagainstmalaria.org