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Singapore: US researchers have developed a new candidate vaccine for malaria from algae. In a study, published in the journal Infection and Immunity, scientists elaborated that paired with an immune-boosting cocktail, the algae-produced protein generated antibodies in mice nearly eliminated mosquito infection by the malaria parasite.

Scientists highlighted that the vaccine developed will prevent the transmission of malarial parasites from infected humans to mosquitoes, thus restricting their spread. "Most malaria vaccine approaches are aimed at preventing humans from becoming infected when bitten by mosquitoes that carry the parasite," said senior author of the study Mr Joseph Vinetz, professor of medicine at the University Of California (UC), San Diego School of Medicine.

Algae is advantageous for vaccine production.Besides its efficiency as a protein producer, algae is a powerful tool for developing vaccines as it is cheap, easy and environmentally friendly. Algae may act as a useful platform for novel vaccines and to produce extremely expensive vaccines at low costs.