

BRIEFLY

'Jet lag' puts bite on malaria parasites

MALARIA parasites are less effective at causing infection if they are out of sync with their victim's body clock, scientists have found.

Researchers at the universities of Edinburgh and Oxford gave the parasites "jet lag" by inserting them into mice whose body clocks were different to their own 24-hour cycle.

It was found the parasite was only half as effective at infecting mice whose body clock was different to their own. The parasites' ability to transmit to mosquitoes who carry the disease was also reduced.

