Defeating dengue starts at home but will hinge on scientific research

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Further Singapore is a leader in the fight against dengue both in terms of research and implementing policies to protect against the virus. Singapore is only one island within the flood of dengue that inundates South-East Asia. Many Asian countries go for a similar battle as Singapore and are reporting their highest number of deaths in a year, with more than 90000 casualties.

In Singapore, cases have spiked recently, soaring in the opening weeks of September, although the figures are still lower than we are used to in previous years. According to the National Environment Agency, Singapore has seen a marked increase in the number of dengue cases in recent years, with more than 11000 cases reported in the first half of 2023. These cases are associated with the Aedes aegypti mosquito, which is responsible for the majority of dengue infections in the country.

There are many promising drugs and vaccines for dengue in the pipeline, and it is worth investing in clinical trials.