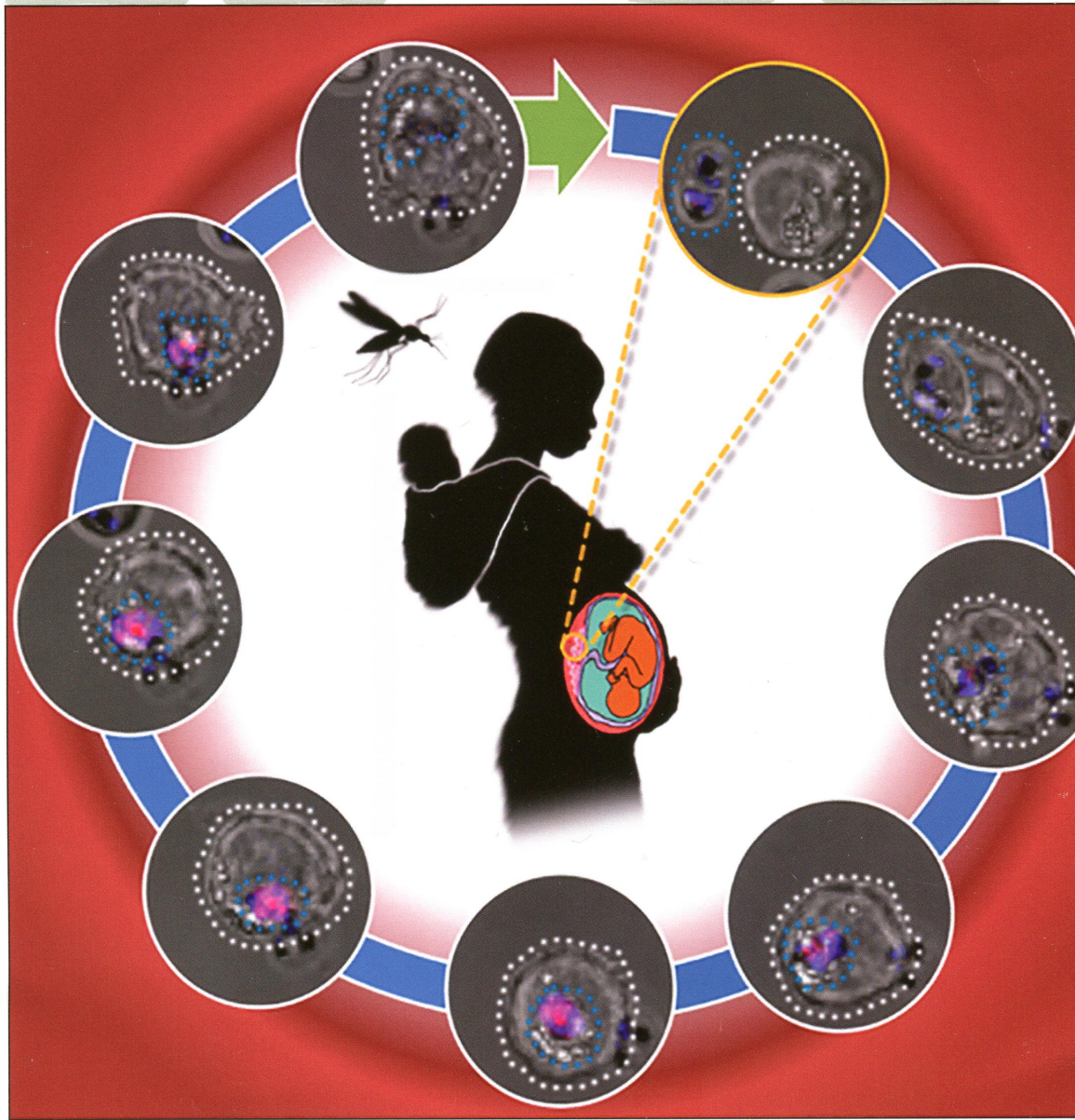


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## INFECTION AND IMMUNITY

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*Cover photograph* (Copyright © 2014, American Society for Microbiology. All Rights Reserved.): Primigravida suffer from the accumulation of *Plasmodium falciparum* infected erythrocytes (IE) in the intervillous spaces of the placenta during pregnancy-associated malaria (PAM). Clinical immunity to PAM by multigravida has been attributed to antibodies that recognize VAR2CSA on the IE surface. The accumulation of circulating monocytes and macrophages within the placenta during PAM underscores the importance of antibody-mediated phagocytosis (i.e., opsonization). Antigen reversal studies show that opsonizing antibodies likely bind to the DBL2 $\chi$ , DBL3 $\chi$ , and DBL5 $\epsilon$  domains of VAR2CSA, priming IEs for phagocytic uptake and phagolysosomal degradation by phagocytes. (See related article in November 2014, vol. 82, p. 4842.)