

INFECTIOUS DISEASES OLD AND NEW – IMPLICATIONS FOR GLOBAL HEALTH

Achieving Open Defecation Free Communities: Evaluating Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices: Post-Community Led Total Sanitation Campaign

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Program/Project Purpose: Diarrheal diseases cause approximately 11% of deaths worldwide and this burden is usually due to fecal contamination of water sources (CDC, 2015). Without proper sanitation facilities and sufficient hygiene, rural communities in Zambia often practice open defecation, which perpetuates a high incidence of diarrheal cases (UNICEF, 2011). The purpose of this research is to evaluate the health and social impacts of a Community Led Total Sanitation campaign that was triggered in the Madzimawe chiefdom in the Eastern Province of Zambia in 2012.

Structure/Method/Design: The Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) survey was used in the Open Defecation Free (ODF) evaluation. KAP is a survey model that provides quantitative and qualitative information. (WHO, 2008).

A total of 81 residents including Chief Madzimawe participated in a questionnaire that assessed knowledge, attitudes, and practices surrounding open defecation as well as the health impacts of having latrines within the chiefdom.

Representative sampling is the sampling method that was chosen for this research. This is a method where participants whom are chosen are reflective of the total population and are selected at random. (University of California-Davis, n.d).

Outcome & Evaluation: Results of this research showed CLTS had a positive influence on the health of the community and there has been increased knowledge on the importance of hygiene and sanitation. It has been four years post the CLTS campaign and latrine usage has been normalized within the chiefdom, with little to no traditional barriers preventing their use.

Going Forward: *Focusing on Latrine Sustainability.*

Both community members and headmen noted the need for more durable resources to construct their latrines. During the rainy season, harsh winds and rains may destroy latrines constructed from straw and wood. Additionally, most latrines in the four villages had a wooden shelter, which can prove to be insufficient during the rainy season. There needs to be more education and training on how to construct a latrine using alternative, cost friendly and durable materials within the Madzimawe chiefdom. Perhaps exploring how latrines are constructed around the world would lend a hand in being able to find these materials within their village.

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Factors influencing risky sexual behavior among young adults (15-24) years living with HIV attending Mulago HIV/AIDS Clinic

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Background: Estimates of 34 million people are living with HIV (PLWH) globally. Of these, 11.8 million are young adults (YAs) meaning for every three PLWH, one is a youth. In developing countries risky sexual behavior (RSB) among YAs is on the increase. In Uganda, the demographic health survey reported that 36% and 49% of young women and men respectively engage in high risk sexual activity. The report by UNAIDS quotes HIV rates of 4.8% (males) and 2.3% (females), clearly indicating that these behaviors were placing YAs' health and lives at risk. However, a quarter of young women reported their first sexual encounters were coerced. A study in Tanzania, suggested the role of HIV counseling and Testing in improving sexual health among YAs not be underestimated.

Methods: A descriptive cross sectional study done from June to August, 2013. Quantitative data was collected from a convenient sample of HIV seropositive young adults.

Findings: Of the participants, 85.71% were practicing RSB. The RSBs assessed included early sexual initiation, having sex without condoms, multiple sexual partners, sex under influence of drugs or substances. The significant factors revealed were female gender, (COR 2.3634, CI 1.090-6.368, P-value 0.031) being more at risk and level of education i.e. secondary level (COR 0.289, CI 0.101-0.828, P-value 0.021) and tertiary level (COR 0.152, CI 0.043-0.536, P-value 0.003) putting one at risk as a result of exposure.

Interpretation: Majority of HIV seropositive YAs were still indulging in RSBs despite the effort to intervene through ongoing counseling on behavioral change and free condom provision.

Source of Funding: Research interview of participants.

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Zika Virus Knowledge and Attitudes among Ecuadorian Adults

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Background: ZIKV is a public health issue because of the consequences that can result from infection, including microcephaly and Guillain-Barre Syndrome. To date, 47 countries and territories in the Americas have confirmed ZIKV cases. Ecuador has reported 2,150 suspected cases and 761 confirmed ZIKV cases, with the largest amount reported in Manabi Province, the coastal area affected by the recent earthquake. The purpose of this study was to assess 1) ZIKV knowledge and 2) ZIKV attitudes, based on the Health Belief Model (HBM), among Ecuadorian adults.

Methods: Quantitative self-report data were collected from 151 participants living in Ecuador, including areas in the Amazon and the Andes, during May and June 2016.