

Assessment of Knowledge, Perception and Practices

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Abstract

Background: Understanding local knowledge about malaria can help in designing sustainable community-based malaria control programs. Thus, the purpose of this study was to generate information on knowledge, perceptions and practices and the preventive measures as regards.

Methods: A cross-sectional survey was conducted September to October 2013 among 851 households from 9 villages in Ekondo Titi Subdivision using structured questionnaire. Questions assessed knowledge, perceptions and practices about malaria among tribal villagers. The data were analyzed using SPSS 20.0 statistical software program.

Results: Most of the respondents 58.2% attributed malaria to mosquito bites. However, some of the respondents (28.8%) mentioned drinking dirty water, midges and standing in the sun as the causes of malaria transmission. Avoiding stagnant water (60.9%) and Clearing of bushes (71.5%) were the most frequently mentioned malaria preventive measures perceived and practiced by the respondents. Only 11.05% of 851 participants owned at least one long lasting insecticide treated net (LLIN). Thirty-nine point nine (39.9%) of respondents indicated that they experienced the last malaria episode more than three months ago.

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Biography

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has received two scholarships from government agencies for her research proposals. During this time, in parallel with her research work, she works as a psychologist at the Health Center in Katerini, and she is teaching staff at the Metropolitan College of Thessaloniki.