



Malaria Control on Women and Children in Burkina Faso, Africa

Charlotte Tucksmith WCSN, Amanda Leonardis WCSN, David Slachtish WCSN
Evelyn L. Spiro School of Nursing, Wagner College



Introduction

Malaria causes significant health problems such as anemia and jaundice because of the loss of red blood cells. If not promptly treated, the infection can become severe and may cause kidney failure, seizures, mental confusion, coma, and death.

Burkina Faso is among 10 countries in Africa with the highest number of cases and deaths due to malaria worldwide. In 2015, malaria was the first cause of outpatient consultations (48.0%), hospitalizations (22.6%), and deaths (23.9%) in Burkina Faso; it was also the main cause of illness among children (80%) [1].

Our innovative program is called the **Malaria Prevention Program**. It focuses on the lack of knowledge regarding malaria.



Resources

- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
- The World Health Organization (WHO)

Community Assessment & Analysis

• Burkina Faso has a population of **21,510,181 people**, comprising over 60 different ethnic groups. [2]

• **10.4 percent** of Burkinabe children suffer from acute malnutrition. [2]

• Agriculture employs 80% of the workforce.

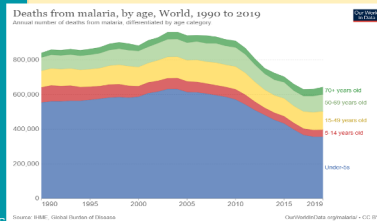
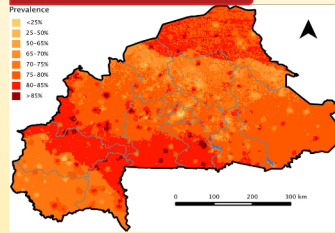
• **40.1% of the population lives below the poverty line.** [4]

• Average life expectancy is 59.0 years. [5]

• There are fewer than 1 (0.45) physicians per 10,000 people, 3.57 nurses per 10,000 people, and 2.39 midwives per 10,000. [5]

• Most women have poor housing quality and unfortunately have no access to treatment [7]

Burkina Faso, Africa



Problems in the Community

- The major health concern in the region of Burkina Faso is women and children that are infected with malaria.
- There is a lack of education among this group. In fact, three quarters of the women had no formal education. [7]
- A very low portion of the women agreed with the fact that using insect repellent, taking preventative medications, and covering their body were the most effective preventative measures [7].
- With the number of women becoming infected with malaria, maternal and neonatal morbidity is rising. [7]
- In 2019, there were approximately 224 million cases reported worldwide. Consequently, the number of deaths resulting from malaria was 409,000 [7]

Proposed Solution

- Our innovative program is called the **Malaria Prevention Program**. It focuses on the lack of knowledge regarding malaria.
- This program sends nurses to Burkina Faso, Africa and educates the community on preventative strategies against malaria. It teaches the effectiveness of using mosquito nets, indoor residual sprays, proper clothing, hallmark signs to watch out for, and even how to treat malaria.
- Only 53% of women knew that malaria can be prevented. [8]
- Malaria can be prevented with mosquito nets and wearing clothing that covers the skin. [8]
- Artemether-lumefantrine is very effective for treating malaria and this medication should be sent to this community to prevent fatalities. [9]



• Specific community health goals would be to ensure that all members in this community are educated on malaria and be able to identify the measures to reduce contracting malaria.

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