

Spot-Check Survey of Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention of 2021 in Adamawa and Yobe States-Nigeria in the Phase of COVID 19 Infection

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ABSTRACT

Malaria has been a major health problem especially in the sub-Saharan Africa. Seasonal malaria chemoprevention (SMC) has been one of the strategies that WHO introduced to reduce cases of malaria, its morbidity and mortality in the under-fives old. To ensure proper implementation of SMC programme in the Adamawa and Yobe State, Spot- check Survey (SCS), which is a quick form of monitoring and evaluation, was introduced. This was to ensure good practices and to strengthen SMC where necessary, so that there will be no much missed children under- five. Three different questionnaires were administered to the House-holds (HHs), community drug distributors (CDDs) and the designated health facilities (HFs). In Adamawa state, 875 HHs were visited, 169 CDDs and 115 HFs, while in Yobe State, 710 HHs, 121CDDs and 81HFs were visited during each of the SMC cycle for 3 days. Majority of the respondents were the mothers (87%) in both states, followed by the fathers. Which is expected. In Adamawa state, 36% of the HHs had 2 children per House, who are under-five, followed by 32% of the HHs with just a child, while in Yobe, 26% of the HHs had 2 children per house followed by 22% who had 3 children per house that are under -five. They all had the SMC drugs. In Adamawa state, 41% of the HHs heard about SMC campaign through the health workers, followed by friends, neighbor and spouses, while in Yobe state, in addition Voluntary community mobilizers contributed to the spreading of the SMC information. Majority of the HHs gave various reasons for accepting SMC drugs such as it prevents fever/malaria, it was given free of charge and they trust the drug. But after the initial cycle, majority said it prevent their children from having malaria fever. SMC has been accepted in the states, with improvement in the preceding cycles.

Keywords: Seasonal malaria chemoprevention, Community drug distributors, Adamawa state

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