

MBARARA

Holy Innocents

Children's Hospital †



Holy Innocents Children's Hospital Mosquito Nets Post Distribution Report (January – April 2011)

1.0 Introduction

The Holy Innocents Children's Hospital (HICH) Uganda is a private-not-for-profit children's hospital founded in 2009 with a mission to guarantee holistic, integrated and sustainable health services to children most especially the less privileged and vulnerable ones.

One of the goals of the hospital is to conduct malaria prevention programmes through the community outreach programmes and distribution of mosquito nets. The hospital management is grateful to AMF for the support in this regard.

In the Mbarara region where the hospital is located, over 13,000 children under five (5) die each year and most of them due to malaria.

The hospital collaborates with local, national and international partners in delivering quality health care to the children of Uganda.

2.0 Distribution of 1300 mosquito bed nets

On 20th December 2010 a consignment of 1300 bed nets donated by the Against Malaria Foundation (AMF) was delivered to Holy Innocent's Children's Hospital.

The management team resolved to distribute them to the following beneficiaries;

a) Children admitted to hospital on discharge (386 mosquito nets)

The distribution of a mosquito net to every discharged baby commenced in January 2011 and was crowned on Monday 25th April 2011, the World Malaria Day.

In the case of the discharged babies the distribution team would first sensitize the attendants on the importance of a mosquito net in the prevention of malaria and also demonstrate to them how to use them. On receiving the mosquito net each attendant was obliged to sign in the delivery book confirming the receipt.



In the above photos, the distribution team is seen sensitizing and educating the attendants and their children on why they must sleep under mosquito nets. During the daily morning sensitization sessions, the attendants always expressed their gratitude as clearly evidenced from their look.

As one of the activities to celebrate the World Malaria Day, the hospital conducted a sensitization workshop on how to prevent malaria as a certificate of attendance, each participant received a mosquito net.



The photos above show a cross section of participants during the workshop and the distribution exercise.

b) Distribution of 800 mosquito nets to Rushoka Health Unit and the community



As indicated in the above photos, on 8th April 2011 a truck carrying a consignment of 800 mosquito nets arrived at Rushoka Health Centre approximately a distance of 150 kilometres from Holy Innocent's Children Hospital very close to the Republic of Rwanda.

Rushoka Health Clinic is one of the satellite health centres for HICH.

The decision to distribute the biggest number of mosquito nets to Rushoka community is because it has the biggest incidences of malaria cases among our satellite health centres.

c) Replacement of 60 old nets on ward at HICH

Given that the mosquito nets covering the babies' beds on wards had become old and expired the distribution team replaced them with 60 new ones as indicated in the photos below.



During the exercises, an occasion was sought to involve the attendants in the covering of beds. They were all very excited and enjoyed the exercise.

d) Distribution of mosquito nets to hospital employees (54 nets)

Before the distribution exercise commenced, a refresher training workshop for all the hospital employees was conducted to remind the staff on the malaria preventive measures in the hospital. They were educated on how to destroy mosquito breeding areas within the hospital and at the end of the workshop each was given a mosquito net to use at home. Interestingly the hospital infection control committee has been making impromptu visits to their homes to test their compliance. I am happy to note that the majority have been compliant.

3.0 Challenges encountered

- A big number of our clients still do not use the mosquito nets but instead keep them in suitcases at home. This has been evidenced by some clients who are re-admitted at hospital still complaining of malaria.
- The donation of the mosquito nets is not consistent so as to guarantee a continuous distribution to the communities.
- Due the limited staff at the hospital sometimes its not possible to conduct the daily ward sensitization sessions.
- The hospital does not have adequate funds to facilitate the direct distribution of nets to the communities.

4.0 Achievements

- The distribution of mosquito nets has enabled us to achieve one of our main hospital goals that is malaria prevention through the distribution of mosquito nets.
- I am happy and excited to report that during the months of March, April and May malaria was not recorded among the top most four diagnosed diseases.

5.0 Conclusion

The hospital management and all the boards both locally and abroad are indebted to Against Malaria Foundation (AMF) for the support and look forward to your continued support so as to protect and uplift the dignity of our children and families. May the good Lord reward all your endeavors.

Yours faithfully

John Baptist Mujuni
CEO/Administrator

