

Baseline survey on malaria – carried out in Mifumi village – November 2007 – 100 respondents, most identifying themselves as peasants of the Japadhola tribe

Notes by JR after reading over the completed surveys 12/07 – DRAFT ONLY – FOR DISCUSSION

General observations

Lots of faith in the health center to provide information and treatment – people look to the health center – “it is near”

For possible inclusion in future study

Is there confusion with other causes of fever?

Is there confusion of treatment and prevention?

Prevention measures they take may not relate to what they perceive as malaria – for example, use latrines

Have preventative measures decreased incidence?

Is malaria used as a catch all term like “flu”?

“Knowing” vs practicing – if they really were putting the info they have or doing the things they say they do, would the incidence be so high (or is it malaria they have each time they get a fever and call it malaria?)

Questions about particular responses

Is “injection” a quinine injection?

Does “rotten places” refer to rotten mangoes on the ground?

Odd outcome

Positive side of malaria – men don’t drink alcohol

Mixed Messages

Respondents mix messages sometimes – i.e., boil water or use pit latrines to prevent malaria

Beliefs about where they get malaria – cold weather, dirty water, bad food

Problem with survey itself

Mix up “health center” and “clinic?”

Traditional healing

Herbal treatment – mango and oral leaves, cassava, neem, eucalyptus, chinchera

Seem to not trust traditional healers or say they are too expensive - “cheat people,” expensive, far, doesn’t trust

Information sources

Friends, health center, radio (“always says the truth”)

Family – “because she trusts them”

Health worker – because health worker “knows it all”

Nurse sister – simply because it is from the nurse sister, respondent believes without question

Behavior change as a result of information

“Yes, when he was told to remove the stagnant water around his home, he did so.”

Sleeping under nets.

“Yes when they told her that coldness causes malaria, she started putting on heavy coats”