



Prevalence of Insecticide Treated Net Possession and Usage for Child Malaria Prevention Among Rural Ghanaian Women

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Global Burden of Malaria

- Fifth cause of death from infectious diseases worldwide
 - Second in Africa
- Over 1 million deaths annually, mostly among children in sub-Saharan Africa
 - Responsible for 18% of childhood deaths in sub-Saharan Africa (~800,000 deaths)

Background

***High levels of ITN
use shown to
reduce mortality by
17% in children
less than 5***





Background

- Children living in urban areas are 1.5 times more likely to be sleeping under an ITN than their rural counterparts
- In homes that possessed ITNs, only 55% of children slept under it the previous night, a WHO study found



Objective

- To investigate the possession and use of ITNs for malaria prevention in 3 different rural Ghana communities

Methods



- 3 selected sites: Apam, Axim and Mampong
- Women of reproductive age (15-49) who were mothers of at least one child under five years of age
- Convenience sampling used for surveys used a approach
- Sample size was 30 – 60 women per hospital
- Interviews conducted in English and Twi

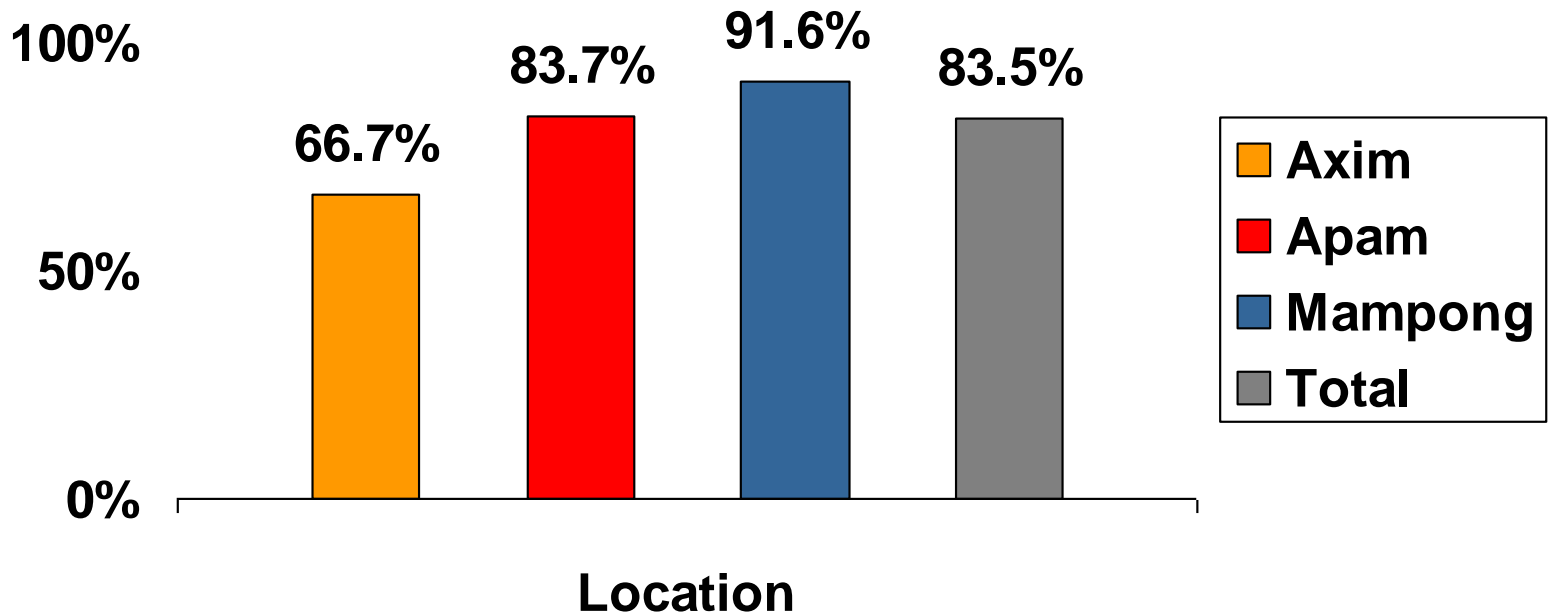


Demographics

	Axim Govt Hospital	Apam Catholic Hospital	Mampong District Hospital	Total
Total respondents	30	37	60	127
Average age	27	29	30	29
Average # of children per ♀	2	3	3	3

Results

Percentage of Respondents Owning ITNs by Site



Are You Sure?

Net Ownership vs Usage





Discussion

- Ghana is projected to meet and exceed 2010 target of 60% possession of ITNs
- Majority of the women that own nets use them appropriately
- Younger mothers were less likely than their older counterparts to own nets



Discussion

- Income was not a determining factor for net ownership
- Heat is the most common deterrent to 100% compliance with net use among owners
- Education is the key



Medase!!!

- *GE and NMF*
- *Dr. Renner, Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital*
- *Dr. Owusu and Axim Government Hospital*
- *Dr. Ahiable and Mampong District Hospital*
- *Frieda Ansoanuur, Apam Catholic Hospital*
- *Dr. Buckle and Mr. Kenneth*