

**DEVELOPING A COMMUNITY PROFILE ON
SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND HUMAN BEHAVIORAL
ASPECTS FOR IMPROVED MALARIA CONTROL
IN NEPAL**

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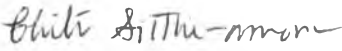
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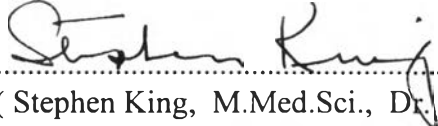
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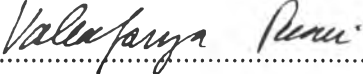
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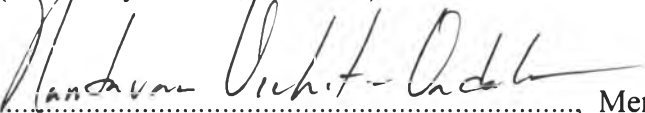

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ABSTRACT

Out of about 20.32 million population of Nepal, approximately 13.17 million (65%) are at malaria risk. Despite of government efforts to control malaria transmission, periodic epidemic outbreaks and persistent transmission in the several areas with tropical and sub-tropical climate, have shown that malaria is still a public health problem in Nepal.

One of the important aspect of any program is availability of update information. In the malaria context, information about all aspects of malaria epidemiology of an area is essential for the reason that the distribution and intensity of malaria vary from one place to other. Many factors such as socio-economic, elements of human behavior, environment, biological factors and provision of health services act together or separately for this and determines the extent of transmission.

At present, epidemiological information on malaria is available throughout the malarious areas of the country. But there is lack of information on socio-economic and behavioral factors conducive for malaria transmission in different villages of Nepal. Studies have shown that these aspects pose a influence both on malaria transmission and control. This calls for identifying those factors in respect to improve malaria control and develop a information profile. So, the objectives of this study is to develop a socio-economic and human behavioral information profile of Panchkhal village so that a suitable control measures could be recommended for the improved malaria control.

The proposed study will be a cross-sectional survey for exploratory purposes with a qualitative approach. The techniques for collection of required and relevant information will be interviews, observation of study site and households and review of available documents and service statistics. A field observation as a part of data exercise was done in two villages of Kanchanaburi Province, Thailand to test the appropriateness of data collection techniques i.e., pre-test of observation checklist (see Appendix I). Similarly, questionnaire guidelines was also tested through interviews with key informants at Ministry of Public Health, Thailand.

The outcome of the research results will be presented to the planners and administrators of Nepal Malaria Control Program. They are expected to apply research results in the formulation of appropriate anti-malaria intervention in that area and will improve the situation.

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LIST OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
ABSTRACT	iv
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	v
LIST OF TABLES	xii
LIST OF FIGURES	xiii
CHAPTER I	
Introduction	1
CHAPTER II : ESSAY	
2.1. Introduction	6
2.2. Community malaria profile	8
2.3. Malaria :	
2.3.1. Causes of malaria	9
2.3.2. Effects of malaria	10
2.3.3. Malaria mosquitoes	11
2.3.4. Transmission of malaria	12

2.3.5. How to prevent and control malaria	14
2.3.6. Interventions (tools) to prevent and control malaria	17
2.4. Analytical framework of the study	24
2.4.1. Required information for the selection of control measures ...	24
2.4.2. Required decisions for the selection of control measures	34
2.4.3. Socio-economic aspects of malaria	37
2.4.4. Socio-economic factors in malaria transmission	39
2.4.5. Human behavioral aspects of malaria	46
2.4.6. Behavioral factors in malaria transmission	47
2.5. Global malaria problem	51
2.6. Nepal	
2.6.1. Malaria situation	52
2.6.2. Climate	53
2.6.3. Magnitude of malaria in Nepal	54
2.6.4. Infrastructure for malaria control in Nepal	56
2.6.5. Information system of malaria in Nepal	56
2.6.6. Problem and constraints	58
2.7. Conclusion	60
References	61

CHAPTER III : PROPOSAL

3.1. Introduction :

3.1.1. Rationale	66
3.1.2. Background of study area	68
3.1.3. Problem statements	68
3.1.4. Relevance of the problem	72
3.1.5. Purpose statement of the study	73
3.1.6. Field of application of research results	74

3.2. Methodology :

3.2.1. Conceptual framework	75
3.2.2. Objectives of the study	78
3.2.3. Research questions	78
3.2.4. Study design	79
3.2.5. Study population	80
3.2.6. Data collection	81
3.2.7. Information analysis	94
3.2.8. Sampling	94
3.2.9. Sampling technique	95

3.3. Activity plan, 1998	97
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3.4. Budget and manpower requirements	100
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3.5. Ethical issues of study	100
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3.6. Limitations	101
References	103

CHAPTER IV : DATA EXERCISE

4.1. Introduction	106
4.2. Technique for data collection	106
4.3. Instrument used for data exercise	107
4.4. Objectives of data exercise	108
4.5. Observation	109
4.5.1. Pre-field activities	109
4.5.2. Field activities	111
4.5.3. Introduction to villages	112
4.5.4. Observation findings	114
4.6. Key informant interview	120
4.7. Key informant interview findings	120
4.8. Interpretation :	
4.8.1. Observation	125
4.8.2. Key informant interview	126
4.9. Discussion	128
4.10. Lesson learned	129
4.11. Limitations	131

CHAPTER V

5. Presentation	133
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CHAPTER VI

6. Annotated Bibliography	157
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Appendices :

I. Questionnaire guidelines for key informant interview	160
II. Observation of the study site	167
III. Semi-structured interview guidelines	174
IV. Documents Review Checklists	177
V. Mapping of the village Kang Pa-Lom-1	178
VI. Mapping of the village Vang Ka-Jae-7	179
VII. Information on socio-economic and behavioral aspects of host (human)..	180
VIII. Information on disease (malaria)	182
IX. Information on vector (mosquito)	183
X. Information on environment	184
XI. Information on control activities (by community and health services) ..	185
Curriculum Vitae	186

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE		PAGE
2.1.	Principles of comprehensive malaria control	15
2.2.	Classification of malaria control measures	17
2.3.	Summary of main control measures for the major malaria types	36
2.4.	Classification of behavior in relation to malaria	48
2.5.	Area classification, vector system, endemicity and population at risk from malaria	54
2.6.	Year and sex wise distribution of malaria in Nepal	55
2.7.	Malaria among the age group in 1995 in Nepal	55
3.1.	The 5 years status of malaria in the country and Panchkhal village, Nepal	67
3.2.	Profile about host (human)	70
3.3.	Topics of questionnaire guidelines to conduct the key informant interview	84
3.4.	Plan of activities to carry out the study	99
4.1.	Summary of housing of 10 houses	116

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE	PAGE
2.1. Epidemiological factors of host, agent and environment involved in the transmission of malaria	13
2.2. Required information for community malaria profile to undertake decisions and select intervention	24
3.1. Relationships between socio-economic and behavioral factors with malaria transmission and need of information for planning control measures	77