FACTORS IN ASSOCIATION WITH USE OR NON-USE OF MOSQUITO BEDNETS IN RURAL CAMEROON: Case Of Upper Muea

DONE BY,
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1. **Malaria**: this is an infectious disease by parasitic protozoans of the genus plasmodium.....

2. **ITNs**: refers to bednets that have impregnated with an insecticides

3. **Social factors**: identifiable patterns of behaviors.....
Introduction

Insecticide treated Nets (ITNs) remains the instrument of choice for malaria prevention in Cameroon. However, data suggests that, its use by the population remains low (Tchinda et al., 2012). This low use is attributed to some factors (Gillett, 1985). It is in this light, we found it necessary to identify the social and cultural factor associated with the use of ITN in Upper Muea, so that innovative....
Problem statement

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

Main Objective
To assess the variability of bed net use as a function of the social and cultural aspect of the people.

Specific Objectives
1. Assess the social factors associated with the use of mosquito bed nets
2. Investigate the cultural determinants associated with the use of LLINs.
3. Assess some demographics on the use of treated LLINs.
This study is relevant to **assist nurses**, the health team and the administration to **understand the social barriers** and **cultural limitations** for the inappropriate or non-use of ITNs.

Understanding that these nets are used against its designed purpose, outcomes from this study is to clearly bring out those related socio-demographic and cultural aspects of the people that has diverted their attention from using ITNs which is the **most safer, convenient** and **cost-free effective** method for combating malaria in Cameroon.
METHODOLOGY

**Study area**
Q5&6 of upper Muea

**Study design**
Descriptive-cross-sectional study-19th Oct-17th June

**Sampling methods**
Multistage sampling

**Selection criteria**
Inclusion/exclusion

**Sample size**
93 participants

**Sampling technique**
Tossing a bottle and follow its head

**Ethical consideration**
All respected

**Data processing and analysis**
Microsoft Excel

**Data quality management**
- pre-test
- clear doubts
- Kept safe

**Instrument of data collection**
Primary

**Data collection**

The data collected was presented using Tables and Figures. respondents rate 98.92%

1. **GENDER DISTRIBUTION**
   - Females were the majority: **65.22%**

2. **AGE DISTRIBUTION**
   - Individuals aged 26-40yrs: **39.13% (the majority)**
   - Those >50yrs: 11.96% (least Populated)

3. **MARRITAL STATUS**
   - Married: **45.65%**, singles: 42.39% and widower: 03.26%

Other demographic variables such as; **Educational levels (A/L highest)**, Religion, **Occupations (Farmers highest)** and Tribes were also assessed.
Question 1: ARE THERE ANY LINKS BETWEEN SOME DEMOGRAPHICS AND THE USE OF ITNS?

1. Age Groups

Net users 26-40yrs and 50+:
Similar to Alaii et al., (2013).

Contrast: Tchinda et al., (2012) who said those >50yrs are least.

Probable reason
Old: count cost of hospitalization.
18-25yrs: Esthetics & nocturnal activities
Thus; *age* will only affect the use of the LLINs depending on the nature of the environment and activities the individuals find themselves, even though individuals 18-25yrs really need to be targeted.
Concerning tribes, we realized that only **36.36% of the Hausa people use LLINs**. Moreover, those from the west did not diligently use their nets.

*No literature within our search*
3. EDUCATIONAL LEVELS

………………respondents' adherence to the use of the LLINs was not consistent though, it decreases with increase educational status.

Contrasted: Ngwibete and James, (2016) stated the reverse. Again Tchinda et al., (2012). Suggested reasons being prestige and reluctance

....................
76.92% of Nurses appeared to use nets the most, followed by farmers 68.42% with the least being the MD and Lab Scientist. Thus; might need to ...

No study to our search proved same or ...
Question 2: Are there social factors affecting the use of ITNs?

1st three reasons are similar to Pulford et al., (2011) and Das et al., (2007)

More so, similar related studies includes that of, Alaii et al., (2003), Cohee et al., (2009).

No contrast
Other reported reasons for the non-use of mosquito nets.

Interestingly, the issue of Allergy and intentional use for fencing farmlands was frequently reported.

On these two reasons, no literature to our search was found to relate with.

Thus: the need for individual, & community targeting.
Question 3: Are there cultural factors associated with beduse?

Based on our findings, there was “**No reported cultural factors affecting the use of ITNs in this study area**”

- **Similar** to: Anil et al., (2001)-North eastern India.


- These differences may have occurred because, their study participants were mostly the elderly and in some cases, only two tribes were assessed.
There are potential social factors that need to be targeted for effective ITNs utilisation: classic homes, feeling of facial and body swelling, coughing and discomfort, for farming among others. If we’re aiming to go beyond the RBM objective, we should address to some extend key findings of this study into our Nursing health education policy.

There were “no cultural factors” linked to the use of the LLINs, though some demographic factors such as age group (18-25yrs), occupation and education (were linked to its use.
RECOMMENDATION

1. TO THE GOVERNMENT
   - Since modernization is on a wheel, introducing and strengthening the concept of indoor spraying for high endemic areas and the use of electric-like pesticide fumes will be essential since factors like heat cannot be eradicated.

2. TO THE COMMUNITY
   - Sensitizations against the negative feelings on the LLINs is still very necessary.
Limitation of the study

1. It was difficult to completely follow the sampling technique since the houses in this study area are not in a straight line or freely linked by roads.

Future Study:

“Research should be done on larger scale to re-investigate on the chemicals used in treating mosquito bed nets”
THANK YOUR
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