



Insecticide Treated Mosquito Bednets

For use with house to house promotion guidelines and for community action

Key messages on Malaria

- Malaria is a dangerous disease caused by infected mosquitoes.
- Malaria is curable and preventable.
- Pregnant women and children under 5 years of age have a greater risk.
- Mosquitoes breed in standing water around the houses; standing water should be cleared to prevent mosquito breeding.
- Mosquito screens or curtains on doors and windows in the house protect and reduce mosquitoes.
- Sleeping under a mosquito bednet will protect against bites and malaria.
- Babies, pregnant women and children under 5 years of age should especially use bednets.
- Repellents and mosquito coils can also help to reduce the risk of mosquito bites.

Key messages on bednets

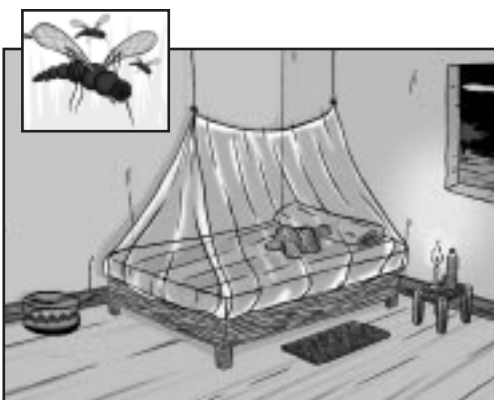
- Impregnated bednets are treated with an insecticide to kill mosquitoes which come in contact with the bednet.
- Old and new bednets can be treated with an insecticide.
- Insecticide-treated mosquito bednets should not be washed frequently after treatment.
- Bednets need to be retreated with insecticide after 4-6 months.



What you should know and do in your community

- Work with a partner who distributes impregnated bednets.
- Learn what the people know and think about the malaria disease, its prevention, mosquitoes and the use of bednets.
- Know the attitudes and obstacles on use of bednets?
- Explain where bednets are available? What is their cost? Is there local production of bednets?
- Explain where to go to treat bednets with insecticides and who is doing this? What is the cost?
- Explain the dangers of malaria, especially for pregnant women and children under 5 years of age.
- Explain and demonstrate the proper use of bednets.
- Revisit each house to learn about problems they may have with the bednets, respond to questions and monitor correct usage.

How to use a bednet properly



- Make sure the bednet is tucked under the mattress or mat (if sleeping on floor) to prevent mosquitoes from entering.

- Bednets should be washed thoroughly before they are treated with insecticide.
- Once the bednet is treated with insecticide it should not be washed too frequently.

Volunteer's checklist for promotion of impregnated bednets

- You have all the information necessary on impregnated bednets.
- You know where bednets are available and their cost.
- You know where bednets can be retreated with insecticide.
- You know the attitudes and behaviours of the community members regarding the use of bednets.

Measuring your success

- An increasing number of families are using impregnated bednets.
- More babies, pregnant women and children under 5 years of age are using bednets.
- Families get their bednets retreated each season.

Keeping records and reporting on your volunteer work

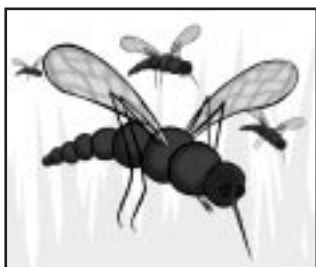
- The total number of households under your responsibility.
- The number of households visited this month.
- The number of households which acquired new bednets this month.
- The total number of households with bednets.
- The number of days you volunteered during the month.

Please note - Window and door curtains (nets) can also be treated with insecticide to decrease the mosquito population.

Remember: Whenever visiting a household, you should remind pregnant women about the need for prenatal consultations and tetanus vaccination. Mothers of children under one year of age also need to know about the need for childhood vaccinations. Exclusive breastfeeding of infants through six months of age is also important.



Key messages on bednets



Malaria is a dangerous disease caused by infected mosquitoes.



Mosquitoes breed in standing water



Sleeping under a mosquito bednet will protect against bites and malaria. Mosquito screens or curtains on doors and windows in the house protect and reduce mosquitoes.



Impregnated bednets are treated with an insecticide to kill mosquitoes which come in contact with the bednet.

Old and new bednets can be treated with an insecticide.



Insecticide-treated mosquito bednets should not be washed frequently after treatment.



Bednets need to be retreated with insecticide after 4-6 months.