



Applicant Information

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Abstract Details

Title:

District population-based survey of Snakebites in Southern Côte d'Ivoire

Category:

Communicable diseases (Malaria, TB, HIV, NTD)

Authors:

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Objectives:

to estimate the burden and describe the epidemiological and clinical characteristics of snakebites using population-based data to promote mitigation strategies

Method:

A cross-sectional snakebite survey was conducted in all households in the Ahondo Health Area (AHA), a sub-population of the Taabo Health and Demographic Surveillance System (HDSS) in 2023. All household members were interviewed by the investigators, and a questionnaire was administered to snakebite cases. Epidemiological and clinical characteristics, as well as the incidence of snakebites in the AHA, were calculated.

Results:

795 households were surveyed, representing 3,924 people in the AHA. 62 snakebite cases were recorded. The incidence of snakebites per 100,000 population in the AHA in the study period, was 280.3 (CI per 100,000 population: 140.0 - 501.0). The case-fatality rate for snakebite victims was 2.0% (95% CI: 0.04 - 8.7) and the 15-54 age group was more affected by snakebites, with a higher proportion in the 35-54 age group. More than half the snakebite victims were farmers. The times of day when snakebites were most frequent were in the morning (36.4% to 41.2%) and at night (27.3% to 29.4%). Most snakebite victims were treated by traditional healers, and none of the cases who visited the health center received antivenom for snakebite.

Conclusion:

This study of snakebites in the Taabo HDSS is the first of its kind. It is important for the health system to make antivenoms available for victims of snakebite and to raise awareness of the main risk factors for prevention.

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