



## Applicant Information

Applicant Name	Applicant Email	Affiliation	Country
Ms Rukaya Kamaldeen Dongu	rukayakamaldeen27@gmail.com	University of Health and Allied Sciences, Ho Ghana	Ghana

## Abstract Details

### Title:

Knowledge and Determinants of Male Genital Schistosomiasis Among Communities Along the Volta Basin, Ghana.

### Category:

Non-communicable diseases including mental health

### Authors:

Rukaya Kamaldeen Dongu<sup>1</sup>, Christopher Odopey Tettey<sup>1</sup>, John Owusu Gyapong<sup>1</sup>, Alfred Kwesi Manyeh<sup>1</sup>

### Objectives:

Male Genital Schistosomiasis (MGS) is a neglected tropical disease affecting millions of men across sub-Saharan Africa, including Ghana. Despite its impact, MGS remains underreported and receives insufficient attention in endemic regions. This study examines the knowledge and determinants of MGS among communities residing along the Volta Basin in Ghana.

### Method:

A cross-sectional study was conducted among 960 participants from the South Tongu, Asuogyaman, and Shai Osudoku districts. Data were collected through structured questionnaires on socio-demographic characteristics, water and sanitation access, and MGS knowledge. Descriptive statistics and logistic regression identified associations between socio-demographic factors, water and sanitation access, and MGS knowledge.

### Results:

The mean age of participants was 40.59 years, with the majority as Ewe (78.54%). Most had attained JSS/JHS/Middle School education (37.33%). Ethnicity was a significant factor, with non-Akan participants having 90% higher odds of having poor knowledge of MGS (aOR = 0.10, 95% CI: 0.02â€”0.58) compared to Akan participants. Those with JSS/JHS/Middle School education had a 1.50 times higher likelihood of having good knowledge of MGS (aOR = 1.50, 95% CI: 0.99â€”2.29) compared to those with no education. Farmers were 62% less likely to have poor knowledge of MGS (aOR = 0.38, 95% CI: 0.19â€”0.77) compared to the unemployed.

### Conclusion:

The study highlights significant gaps in MGS knowledge among communities along the Volta Basin, influenced by socio-demographic factors, water access, and sanitation practices. Tailored health education and improved water and sanitation infrastructure are crucial for enhancing MGS awareness and reducing transmission in these endemic areas.

### Submission Date:

2024-09-23 15:18:42