

ANTI-JIGGERS CAMPAIGN ALIGULA VILLAGE SOY KITALE



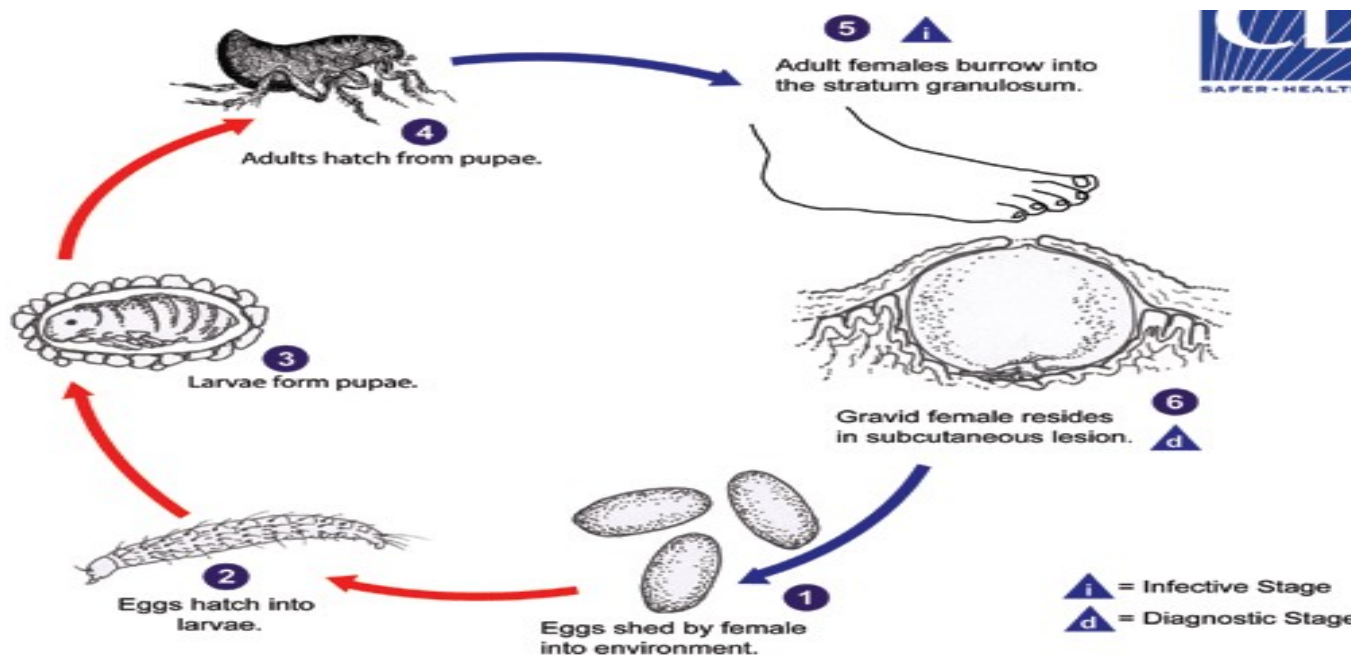
BACKGROUND

Jiggers or chigoe flea, are parasitic arthropods usually found in sandy terrain of warm and dry climates. They prefer stock farms, soil and dust close to farms. The female 1-mm-long-flea burrows into an exposed skin on the feet of a mammal, remaining there for two weeks while developing eggs. The female jigger embeds under toenails and fingernails. This time, the feet swell dramatically and cause excruciating irritation, a condition called tungiasis that make a victim unable to walk. In serious conditions, a victim may be forced to undergo amputation. Jiggers can easily be controlled through personal hygiene and eradication of the fleas (vectors).

According to Ahadi Kenya Report, Most school going children when affected they cannot concentrate in class, and have aneamia due to the parasite feeding on their blood.

The report also indicated infested persons mostly suffer in silence, as they have no one to run to. Some of the children may be too young to take care of themselves. Seeking medical attention might not be an option due to poverty and the fact that some hospitals do not consider jigger infestation as a medical condition.

The life cycle of Jiggers according to CDC.



INTRODUCTION

Rays of Care Kenya (ROCK) is a community-based organization that provides wrap-around-care to hard-to-reach populations in Kenya. We facilitate preventative interventions designed to deal with the day-to-day challenges and explore therapeutic and supportive interventions. We are a team of Clinicians, nutritionists, Psychologists and social workers, working to provide much needed support to communities in need with a special focus on youth and women. Rays of Care Kenya(ROCK) in partnership with Virtual foundation had an Anti-jiggers campaign in Aligula Village Soyi Kitale on 30th



Illustration 1: The dark spots are jiggers on the 11year boys.

May to 1st June. It was a great success. The ROCK management wishes to sincerely appreciate all partners and sponsors for their generous contribution towards the noble cause.

The report highlights the achievements and also the challenges for your attention.

ROCK requests you to provide any feedback which would facilitate continuous improvement in the organization for any future medical camps and jiggers campaign in the country.

You could post on our Facebook page raysofcare kenya or send an Email to info@raysofcare.org.

Objectives of Anti-jiggers campaign

- To find out the intense of jiggers menace in Alligula village
- Bring affordable healthcare and information to the Aligula community.
- Find a lasting solution to jiggers Menace in the Aligula community in partnership with county authorities and other interested partners.

The team as usual arrived from all over the country on 29th May and was given a warm welcome by Aligula primary school teachers. The team was hosted by Madam Seina Khaemba who is also a teacher at Aligula school. Mr Jerome, Community health worker Miss Ann, the entire Aligula staff were

part of our sessions at the school.



Illustration 2: The ROCK team in Red T-shirts preparing to remove jiggers

Preparation and services

The preparation was intense and involved community leadership, the Aligula primary, and Aligula community as a whole. The chief was informed of our intentions and gave us the go ahead and even accompanied us during the events. Mr Jerome who is part of the community had done a baseline survey and was our link person at the community level. The teachers at Aligula school were all involved because some of students at the school were also affected. The community health worker was involved because she is meant to take the report from the community to the ministry of health for follow-up and she did an excellent Job.

Services offered

1. Treatment of minor ailments
2. Treatment of jiggers infested individuals
3. Mentor-ship session at Aligula primary
4. Home visits and fumigation of the homes

It was a great opportunity to use the the Aligula dispensary where we saw about 30 patients before we headed to the field because our main objective was to have the Anti-jiggers campaign. The stigma associated with jiggers infestation, many were not willing to come to the clinic for treatment. We had one very serious patient who we treated and even ordered more drugs for her from the Chemist at Soyi market.

There is need for healthcare service in this place we hope to come back and have a great free medical camp to the community.



Illustration 3: The reception and triage area.



Illustration 4: The consultation room

One thing the ROCK team has learned throughout the camps, is to be creative and improvise as much as we can. In life you cannot have everything but you can recycle and use what you have at hand.



Illustration 5: setting up our drugs and equipment

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ANTI-JIGGERS CAMPAIGN

We managed to treat and screen 610 clients as per report summarized below
 On 31th May, we dewormed over 500 school children at Aligula primary.
 All the children were given each zinc sulphate tablets to continue using at home for 10 days.
 The sick were treated and those who needed referral were sent to the county hospital.

Table 1

GENDER	Infested patients	Other infections	HOMES
MALES	50	10	
FEMALES	20	30	
STUDENTS		500	
HOMES FUMIGATED			8
TOTAL	110	600	8
Total clients		610	

On 30th may 2019, we visited the Aligula primary where we had a mentorship training on self esteem, communication, values, reproduction and sexuality for class 6 to 8. It was such a great day and the students learned a lot from the team. We distribution pads to the girls, and boys were taught on importance of being their sisters keeper.



Illustration 6: detergent making process



Illustration 7: Importance of knowing yourself talk



Illustration 8: We had only 50 pieces of pads



Illustration 9: Sick students were treated.

The students trained on how jiggers is spread, the importance of maintaining good hygiene and together with the team, the students made detergents that were used to clean their school toilets.



Illustration 11: Students practicing how to make soap detergent



Illustration 10: cleaning of the pit latrine using students made detergent

On 31 and 1st June 2019, the team was divided into two groups one at the Aligula dispensary and the other did home visits and fumigation of jiggers infested homes.



Illustration 13: The story of Mr. Nandwa who had never been injected in his life



Illustration 12: All these ladies and gentlemen volunteered to work with the team



Illustration 14: This parent, blood pressure was high she was treated and given advice on diet and drugs.



SPONSORS AND PARTNER

Aligula Anti Jigger Campaign - Soy
Rays of Care Kenya & Virtual Volunteer Foundation
#MadarakaDay2019 #TwendeAligula2019
#KickJiggersOut2019
31st May -1st June 2019
Mentorship, Treatment, Fumigation, Tree Planting
KEMSA DAWA KEDA REGAL PHARMACEUTICALS LTD. DREAM TEAM
YOU DREAM .WE FULFILL #dreamteam

The anti-jiggers campaign was supported by various partners who through their generous giving, enabled the ROCK team to attend to over 610 clients. We gave hope to the discriminated and stigmatized people in Aligula community.

KEMSA, REGAL AND DAWA Pharmaceuticals, they gave us enough donations of drugs and gloves that enabled the success of the campaign. The drugs and other donations were used to treat the patients, the Zinc tablets were given to all the school children and the under fives in the community.

THE STEPPING STONES KITENGELA

The school management, supported the campaign by donating kshs.10,000 that was used for transport accommodation of the ROCK team while at Aligula Village. You made it possible for the team to have a decent place to rest during the campaign. As “only life lived for others is a life worthwhile” Albert Einstein.

ALLIGULA COMMUNITY

Mr Jerome and the chief Senior Mukasa Mr Simiyu, were of great impact during the campaign. They knew where the villagers lived who were infested with the jiggers. They took us from door to door, helped in fumigation, cleaning of the infested individuals and even convincing the people that we were there for a good cause. Most people who are infested by jiggers, tend to be discriminated hence fear being seen.



Illustration 15: The joy expressed by one of the jiggers victim after removal

ALIGULA PRIMARY

The Staff, students and board of parents made the event such a success. We managed to treat students and parents who were infested by the jiggers menace at the school compound. They allowed us to have sessions with the students, and planted trees. Most of our volunteers were students from this school. The deputy headmistress was one of the teachers who walked with us from house to house and even donated food staff to the affected individuals.



MR AND MRS KHAEMBA

This family took care of our meals for all the days that we were at Soyi, Aligula. They made sure we had a safe place to sleep and our meals were ready. They sacrificed their time just to make sure that we were comfortable. Thank you for your service you made our stay comfortable. We are forever grateful for your hospitality.



THE VIRTUAL FOUNDATION

They are part of ROCK, they donated shoes and actively took part in treating the jiggers affected individual. Team work has always been the priority between ROCK and Virtual.

TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS

This is one of the best team one can ever have. We had the young and Old together. The teenagers did tremendous work. They worked and walked from school to the communities for two days without any payment. That is the chosen generation that we need to explore their potential for future responsible adults. They made the campaign fun and a learning experience. They gave hope to their fellow children which was really encouraging.



CHALLENGES

The challenges are real in any organization. ROCK had several challenges mentioned below during the anti-jiggers campaign.



Illustration 16: ROCK team walking back to the hotel

Donor Support

Rays of care Kenya is less than one year old, hence we still do not have sponsors to support our projects. Most of the funds we get from sponsors mentioned above and individuals. The normal budget for the anti-jiggers campaign is approximately kshs.300,000 which we did not have. The drugs donated to us were worth 50,000 and cash of 10,000 + ROCK team had a kshs. 20,000. The total contributions were kshs. 80,000 out of kshs. 300,000/= This forced us to attend to fewer people due to financial constraints.

The shoes we got for the infested individuals were small sizes so it meant most of the people who wear sizes 38 and above did not get any shoes and we did not have cash to buy more.

Publicity

It is always a great opportunity and pride to advertise and attend to as many clients as possible and this comes with finances which was not possible for us. We were not able to make fliers for advertisement and advertise more.

Transport and Accommodation

Rays of care Kenya does not have its own means of transport and Kitale being quite a distance from our headquarters in Kitengela we were forced to travel by public transport.

On Accommodation, We were lucky to get a fare priced hotel where we slept but had our meals at the Akhaemba family.

If we were financially stable we would have traveled the whole team which is made up of 10 people but instead we could afford to have half of the group.

Duration of the medical campaign

The duration was two days, but unfortunately we only had to work half days because of the rains. The last day we were thoroughly rained on because we did not have means of transport to move in the villages as fast as we could. We were lucky to run to a former head teacher who offered us a shelter.

We hope through our shared experiences, we would learn and look at every individual as deserving a dignified life without discrimination.

Special appreciation

The success of the anti-jiggers campaign was highly attributed to the active involvement and participation of ROCK and all the volunteers. The team came from all over the country to Alligula village to offer treatment and support to individuals infested by jiggers.

The Alligula community and leadership under Mr. Jerome, Senior Mukasa Mr Simiyu, Community health volunteer Miss Gladys, they walked and worked with us for two days without complaining.

The staff and students from Alligula primary came to hold the hands of the victims, helped in cleaning the victims and spraying the homes lead by their headboy (Emanuel Masai, Mr Nimrod, Mr Cheruyiot, school deputy headteacher Mrs Gladys Ingabo and the Headteacher Madam Judith Cheptot.

The anti-jiggers campaign was truly a testament to the power of unity and commitment to a cause. Everything that happened from planning to success of the campaign is due to dedication of the ROCK team, Aligula community all the volunteers and the Aligula leadership.



On behalf of the ROCK team and the Aligula community we couldn't have done it without your support. The young boy was able to sleep well and even have a smile.

Conclusion

Aligula anti-jiggers campaign was the greatest baseline survey we did as ROCK in Kitale Soyi. Just as doubting Thomas's, we did not expect to see the dreadful horrifying sight of the affected individuals from the old to baby's. There is need for more education, empowerment and policies that would protect all the affected individuals. The jiggers menace is believed to be in Muranga, but proven beyond doubt that is a Kenyan problem that have to be addressed like yesterday.



Mrs Margaret Kenyatta, The first Lady “Unlike other diseases which do not discriminate between social classes, jigger infestations have socio-economic risk factors which include social neglect, poor housing, inadequate water supply and sanitation, and poor domestic and personal hygiene. As such, it is a disease of the vulnerable and neglected households,”

The government can empower the community health workers to be able to spray the homes, animals and schools frequently to kill the vector. People should be encouraged to wear shoes, this will help reduce the infestation.

We are planning to visit the affected individuals to spray the homes at least after every three months and train the affected individuals on income generating activities. We hope and believe that with more partnership between governments, cooperates and individuals we would cover more ground in addressing the Menace.



Illustration 17: The handsome boy says he wants to be a doctor, his dreams are valid



Illustration 18: Imagine a 1year old baby infested with jiggers

God bless all our donors and volunteers for participating in the noble cause, indeed, you gave hope to the needy in our society. “ The degree of loving is measured by the degree of giving” Edwin Louis.

Thank you (Kongoi)

PICTURE GALLERY

The Aligula Primary has a population of over 800 students coming from the needy village of Aligula where we had gone to do Anti-jiggers campaign.



Illustration 19: Aligula primary we going to wash the latrines



Illustration 20: The mentorship training done by all the ROCK team

The ROCK team encouraged the student to concentrate on their education as it is the key to their future. Most of the students come from very humble background.

Cleaning and jiggers removal session



Illustration 1: Jiggers on toenail

Illustration 2: jiggers on the fingernails and surrounding



Illustration 3: jiggers infested on toes and heels



Illustration 4: jiggers infested on the soles and almost the entire leg of a two year old boy

The jiggers can spread to more than toes and nails



Illustration 5: soaking of the affected limbs in potassium permanganet before trimming the nails. By Volunteer Jerome.



Illustration 6: Injection of penicillin to affected areas to kill and dry the wounds



Illustration 7: After injecting with penicillin, the client has to soak the affected areas in potassium permanganet again for 30mins



Illustration 8: The fingers of the 11months baby after 24hours of treatment

Home visits and fumigation

This is done to make sure that there is no reinfection after thorough treatment of the clients. We managed to fumigate approximately 8 homes.



Illustration 1: The boys getting ready to fumigate the house of one of the victims.



Illustration 3: All clutters in the houses are placed outside sprayed and cleaned.



Illustration 4: The surroundings have to be fumigated too



Illustration 5: A time for photo after a busy field day out for Anti-jiggers campaign

At Aligula school

We had students who were infested and even they brought some of their parents to be treated.



Illustration 1: Miss Rosa, ROCK clinician cutting the baby's nails before removing the jiggers



Illustration 2: ROCK Founder cutting nails of the parent before injecting the penicillin



Illustration 3: Mr Phelix ROCK clinician looking for any jiggers on the students hand



Illustration 4: It is not easy to remove jiggers from children, it calls for enough forces



Illustration 5: 11/2 year old being removed jiggers

Those parents and children who accepted to be treated were really bold. Not many are willing to go public for help. People infested with jiggers are looked down upon hence fear stigma and discrimination.

The volunteers and beneficiaries of the Anti-jiggers campaign



Illustration 1: Thinking about way forward, Marylyn, Jerome and Julius

Illustration 2: Madam Gladys deputy principle Aligula and Miss Ann Community health volunteer



Illustration 3: The lady whose family was infested and Mr Simiyu the chief of Aligula Village



Illustration 4: Some of the children who got each two pairs of shoes to enable them walk to school.



Illustration 5: Time for the Clinician to have some hearty laughter. We don't like inflicting pain but we have to sometimes.



Illustration 6: The degree of loving is measured by the degree of giving. 'Edwin Louis'

Tree planting

It was not possible for the team to plant trees at Aligula school. We entrusted the work to the Teachers and students volunteers who definitely planted the trees on our behalf. Tree is life and nature has away of calming even the most stressed minds.



Kitale is a beautiful and ever green county bordering Uasin Gishu and Kakamega. It is the food basket of the country. The weather too is great, with lots of rain in the afternoons. There were fresh vegetables and fresh milk provided to us during our stay. Most people here are farmers with chunks of land. The Aligula village just like any other town it has people living there as squatters.

A SANTE SANA



Thank you Aligula Community for walking with us in the journey of Anti-jiggers campaign it was worth the cause.

As a volunteer, it is not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving. ‘ Mother Teresa’

To all our sponsors, your continued generosity towards our charity enabled us to attend to more than 610 people and whereby 70 of them were infested by jiggers. Thank you for your Donation.

Thank you (“Kongoi Mising”)