



NATIONAL MALARIA CONTROL PROGRAM
ROTARIANS AGAINST MALARIA
QUARTER THREE FIELD TRIP REPORT FOR
SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS PROVINCE
SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2024



Report by: Erica Nawara
Regional Malaria Coordinator NIP/ENB
Rotarians Against Malaria
National Malaria Control Program



DATE: 23.09.24 to 07.10.24

Total Nights in the Field: 14nights

Accompanying RAM Officer: Mr. Eustin Torot- RMC WNB/Manus/Hela

Vehicle: Hire Vehicle (HAX 902) Brown Land Cruiser 10 seater

Accommodation in Mendi: Mt Lemina Lodge

Southern Highlands Malaria Team Travelled with:

1. Mr. Ripi Siki- Provincial Malaria Supervisor
2. Mr. Randy Joe- Provincial Disease Control Officer

People Met with in the Province:

1. Mr. Randy Joe -Provincial Disease Control Officer
2. Ms. Nancy Aloitch Yawiro- Program Manager Health Santos Foundation.

OBJECTIVE

This was the third trip of 2024, to visit all accessible health centres (HC) in Southern Highlands Province (SHP) and ensure that healthcare givers in these facilities are correctly diagnosing and treating malaria cases as per National Malaria Treatment Protocol. This trip was also to ensure that there is adequate supply of Malaria Rapid Diagnostic Test (RDT) kits, Artemisinin-based Combination Therapy (ACT)s and other malaria commodities including Antenatal Care (ANC) nets in all health facilities based on consumption rates and as per their monthly Malaria Register reports and National Health Information System (NHIS) reports.

BRIEF BACKGROUND OF THE PROVINCE

The environmental condition in the SHP is rugged mountains with fast flowing rivers. Southern Highlands Province is made up of lush, high valleys between towering limestone peaks. Mt Giluwe (4367m), the second-highest mountain in PNG, sits on the Province's northeastern border. The limestone hills and high rainfall are ideal for the formation of caves. Some caves of enormous depth and length have already been explored and it is a distinct possibility that some of the deepest caves in the world are. Southern Highlands Province (SHP) has five (5) districts which are governed by the Members of Parliament all working and living in the nation's capital, National Capital District – Port Moresby. All the district operations are coordinated and overseen by the CEOs under the District Development Authority. The Province has a total of 22 LLGs and 502 Council wards. It is one of the provinces of the highlands region of Papua New Guinea. The total area of the province spread across 15,089 square kilometers. Southern Highlands Province shares a common administrative boundary with Western Highlands, Enga, Gulf and Hela Provinces. It is made up of five districts. (Mendi-Munihu, Imbonggu, Ialibu-Pangia, Nipa-Kutubu & Kagua-Erave). The province has a fair distribution of health services throughout the area as from Hospital, District Hospitals, Health Centre's, Community Health Posts, Sub-Health Centre and still few aid posts in the remotest areas. The facilities are governed by the Department of health and most by the Church Health Agency which serves most remote areas of the province.



SUMMARY OF THE QUARTER THREE VISIT TO SHP

Table 1: Shows the Summary of what has been done in the Q3 Malaria Visit to Southern Highlands Province.

Days	Dates	Activities done
Monday	23.09.24	Travelled to POM from Hagen. The team (PMS & PDCO) from SHP also traveled done to Hagen on the same day and waited for Eustin and myself. Arrived in Hagen went to AMS Hagen to collect drugs but unfortunately the drugs were not ready. Overnight in Hagen, WHP.
Tuesday	24.09.24	Collected Malaria Drugs from Hagen AMS at 12mid day and travelled to Mendi from Hagen. The Team visited Komoli CHP and Kaupena HC on the way to Mendi Town. Arrived at 6pm in Mendi Town.
Wednesday	25.09.24	Travelled back to lalibu Pangia District from Mendi Town. HF Visit and Drug Distribution to Pangia HC, Wiliame HC and Mele HC. Overnight at lalibu Station.
Thursday	26.09.24	Travelled to Kagua Erave District from lalibu. HF Visit and Drug Distribution to Muli HC, Yakisu CHP, Erave HC, Kagua HC, Samberigi HC and Mororogo HC. Overnight again at lalibu Station.
Friday	27.09.24	HF Visit and Drug Distribution to lalibu District Hospita, Imbogu HC, Pakule HC, Tugipangi HC and Omoi HC. Travelled back to Mendi Town.
Saturday	28.09.24	HF Visit and Drug Distribution to Yaria HC and Mongol HC. Return to Mendi Town.
Sunday	29.09.24	Worked on Weekly Plan.
Monday	30.09.24	HF visit and Drug distribution to Nipa District Hospital, Kwaima HC. Tegibo HC and Pombreal HC. Return to Mendi Town.
Tuesday	01.10.24	Met with Nancy at Santos Foundation Office in Mendi. HF Visit and Drug distribution to Tamenda HC, Kar HC and Det HC. Return to Mendi Town.
Wednesday	02.10.24	Travelled to Kutubu from Mendi town and did HF visit and drug distribution to Yomasi CHP, Pimaga DH, Inu HC & Baguale HC in Kutubu. Overnight at Moro, Kutubu.
Thursday	03.10.24	HF Visit and Drug distribution to Aiyo CHP, Kaipu HC & Sisibia HC. Waro HC rugs were also signed off by the OIC at Aiyo CHP. 2 nd night spend at Moro, Kutubu
Friday	04.10.24	Return trip from Moro, Kutubu to Mendi Town. Visited Mendi Urban Clinic, Mendi Hospital and Epeanda Urban Clinic.



Saturday	05.10.24	HF visit and drug distribution to Bui Yebi HC. After HF visit the team loaded the vehicle with drugs for Hagen Trip.
Sunday	06.10.24	Travelled down from Mendi to Hagen with the neared expired drugs for Madang Province. Drugs were loaded in Kila's Vehicle in Hagen and he brought the drugs to Madang. Drugs arrived in Madang on Tuesday 08.10.24.
Monday	07.10.24	I travelled to POM from Hagen and Eustin travelled to Hela on the same day to commenced his Hela Q3 visit.

Executive Summary

Southern Highlands Province quarter 3 Health Facility Visit and Drug Distribution was done in 2 weeks starting from the 23rd of September 2024. A total of 36/49 Health Facilities (HF) were physically visited by the Team and the bonus HF visited is Moro Santos Clinic which brings the total of HF visited up to 37 HFs. 5/6 HFs in Ialibu/Pangia District were visited in 3days, 9/9 HFs in Imbogu District were visited in 5days, 5/9 HFs in Kagua/Erave District were visited in 1day, 3/9 HFS in Mendi/Munihu District were visited in 2days and 14/17 HFS in Nipa/Kutubu District were visited in 3days. The coverage rate for this visit is 75.5% which is above 50%. 13 Health Facilities in the Province were not physically visited because of inaccessibility and Tribal fights. 2 HFs (Aiyu CHP and Baguale HC) in Nipa/Kutu district were physically visited but unfortunately there was no Health Staff available during the visit. They drug supplies were left with the Santos Team for Delivery.

Most HF visited are not supplies with RDTs, ACTs and Primaquine because they have enough stock from the previous visits, as well as they received few supplies from the 100% kits supplied by AMS Hagen. There were a lot of near expired drugs that were removed from the HFs and was repacked and send to Madang Province. There were also expired Primaquine, ACTs and RDTs which were removed from the HFs. Timeliness of monthly report submission in the province is very great. Clinical cases of Malaria are done in few HFs, which was emphasized to stop during the visit. There were no security issues encountered during this visit.

There was a big support from Santos Foundation during the Team's visit to Moro Kutubu. They supported the team with 2nights accommodation with meals and the fuel. Back at the PHA there is no proper storage area for the Malaria Commodities, heavy rain has been leaking into the container and causing damage to the medicine boxes, so this was reported to the PDCO and he assured the Team that they will provide a proper storage area for the Team to store Malaria Commodities. New young Provincial Malaria Supervisor should be recruited by the PHA to accompanied the current PMS. Quarterly visits to Southern Highlands Province should be done 6monthly going forward due to a low burden Malaria area. I would like to commend my hard working team for the successfully trip done in SHP in this quarter and looking forward too many more of this successful trips in the future.



COVERAGE RATE

Table 2: Below indicates the summary of Health Facility Visit and the percentage coverage.

	Q1	Q 2	Q 3
Total number HFs	49	49	49
Total Number Accessible	39	37	39
Total Number Reached	28	16	37
% Coverage (Accessible)	71.8	43.2	94.9
% Coverage (Total HFs)	57.1	32.7	75.5

Table 3: Below indicates Health Facility and the date of visit for SHP Q3 2024.

District	Health Facility	Date of Visit	District	Health Facility	Date of Visit
Ialibu/Pangia	Ialibu HP	27.09.24	Mendi/Munihu	Kip HSC	Not visited
Ialibu/Pangia	Mele HSC	25.09.24	Mendi/Munihu	Marara CHP	Not visited
Ialibu/Pangia	Muli HSC	26.09.24	Mendi/Munihu	Mendi Hospital	04.10.24
Ialibu/Pangia	Pangia HC	25.10.24	Mendi/Munihu	Mendi U/C	04.10.24
Ialibu/Pangia	Williame HSC	25.09.24	Mendi/Munihu	Mogol HSC	28.09.24
Ialibu/Pangia	Wire HSC	Not Visited	Mendi/Munihu	Munihu HC	Not Visited
Imbogu	Bui Yebi	05.10.24	Mendi/Munihu	Pingirip HSC	Not Visited
Imbogu	Epeanda U/C	04.10.24	Mendi/Munihu	Topa HSC	Not visited
Imbogu	Imbogu HSC	27.09.24	Mendi/Munihu	Was HSC	Not visited
Imbogu	Kaupena HC	24.09.24	Nipa/Kutubu	Aiyo CHP	03.10.24
Imbogu	Komoli CHP	24.09.24	Nipa/Kutubu	Baguale HSC	02.10.24
Imbogu	Omai CHP	27.09.24	Nipa/Kutubu	Bosave HSC	Not visited
Imbogu	Pakule HSC	27.09.24	Nipa/Kutubu	Det HC	01.10.24
Imbogu	Tugupangi	27.09.24	Nipa/Kutubu	Inu HSC	02.10.24



Imbogu	Yaria HSC	28.09.24	Nipa/Kutubu	Kaipu HSC	03.10.24
Kagua/Erave	Erave HC	26.09.24	Nipa/Kutubu	Kantobo HSC	Not visited
Kagua/Erave	Kagua HC	26.09.24	Nipa/Kutubu	Kar HSC	02.10.24
Kagua/Erave	Kuare HSC	Not visited	Nipa/Kutubu	Kwaima HC	30.09.24
Kagua/Erave	Marorogo HSC	26.09.24	Nipa/Kutubu	Nipa DH	30.09.24
Kagua/Erave	Samberigi HSC	26.09.24	Nipa/Kutubu	Pimaga DH	02.10.24
Kagua/Erave	Uma HSC	Not visited	Nipa/Kutubu	Pombereal HSC	30.09.24
Kagua/Erave	Waposale HSC	Not visited	Nipa/Kutubu	Sisibia CHP	03.10.24
Kagua/Erave	Yakisu HCS	26.09.24	Nipa/Kutubu	Tamenda HSC	01.10.24
Nipa/Kutubu	Waro HSC	Not visited	Nipa/Kutubu	Tegibo HSC	30.09.24
Nipa/Kutubu	Moro Santos Clinic	02.10.24	Nipa/Kutubu	Yomasi CHP	02.10.24

PLAN FOR HARD TO REACH HEALTH FACILITIES

For the Hard to reach HF's all the drugs are kept in the container at Transit Medical Store in Mendi and the PMS is in charged. The PMS was advised to give supplies to those HF's whenever they are in Mendi.

STOCK MANAGEMENT

Overall there is NO STOCK OUTS of RDTs, ACTs and Primaquine. Stock cards are given by officers during the quarterly visits but the Health Facility staffs are not utilizing them because of very low burden of malaria in the Province. A box of ACT can be used for the whole year or even 2 years.



DRUG DISTRIBUTION

Table 4: Shows total number of Malaria Commodities distributed in SHP Q3 2024

Item	Total Distributed in SHP Q3 2024
RDT	198 boxes of 25 cassettes
ACT 6	1 box of 30 blisters
ACT 12	57 boxes of 30 blisters
ACT 18	2 boxes of 30 blisters
ACT 24	26 boxes of 30 blisters
Primaquine 13.2mg	40 container of 100 tablets

For this quarter all drug supplies were supplied by AMS Hagen.

Table 5: Shows the current buffer stock of Malaria Commodities at the Provincial Medical Store after 2024 Q3 Distribution

RDT	ACT 6	ACT 12	ACT 18	ACT 24	Primaquine	Antenatal Nets
976 boxes of 25 cassettes	2 boxes of 30 blisters	48 boxes of 30 blisters	8 boxes of 30 blisters	63 boxes 30 of blisters	160 container of 100 tablets	0 bales

ANTENATAL MOSQUITO NETS DISTRIBUTION

Accountability of ANC Mosquito Nets

From observation they is good accountability of ANC nets. There was no net distribution done in Quarter 3 because of Nil stock of Nets in the Province. Only ANC net receipts were collected during the visit. New Nets have arrived in Hagen and waiting for pickup to the Province



MALARIA REPORT

Table 6: Shows SHP malaria Report January to September 2024 (source ENHIS)

Southern Highlands Province MALARIA REPORT January to September 2024

Date Printed: 09/10/2024 12:43:16

Code	Facility	No of reports	OUTPATIENT		INPATIENT		DEATHS		Slides Examined			RDT Examinations			
			Clinical	RDT	Clinical	RDT	Clinical	RDT	No. Exam	+ve %	+ve % falcip	No. Exam	+ve %	+ve % falcip	Failed
70101	Ialibu HP	9	19	47	6	1	1	0	35	0	0	210	18.6	7.1	0.5
70103	Muli SC	9	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	54	48.1	33.3	1.9
70104	Pangia HC	9	1	16	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	151	12.6	9.9	1.3
70105	Willame SC	9	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	41	2.4	2.4	0
70106	Mele SC	9	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	17.1	2.9	0
70107	Wire SC	9	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	3.1
IALIBU/PANGIA District		54	46	85	6	1	1	0	36	0	0	523	17.4	9.6	1.0
70201	Bul Yebli SC	9	2	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	94	8.5	7.4	0
70202	Imbongu SC	9	0	24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	92	28.3	25.0	0
70203	Kaupena HC	9	1	22	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	156	14.7	7.7	0
70204	Tugipangi SC	9	5	10	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	17	47.1	41.2	0
70205	Pakule SC	9	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	109	12.8	2.8	0
70206	Yaria SC	9	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	40.0	10.0	0
70207	Epeanda UC	9	1	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	394	10.4	4.6	0
70208	Omai CHP	9	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	23.3	6.7	0
70209	Komoli CHP	8	5	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	30.6	19.4	2.8
IMBONGGU District		80	14	141	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	938	15.1	8.5	0.1
70301	Erave HC	9	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	67	3.0	1.5	0
70302	Kagua HC	9	0	12	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	133	11.3	7.5	0.8
70303	Marorogo SC	9	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	6.3	6.3	0
70304	Samberig SC	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	16.7
70307	Waposale SC	8	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	0	0	0
70309	Kuare SC	9	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
70310	Uma SC	9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	6.3	6.3	0
70311	Yakisu SC	9	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	22.2	22.2	0
KAGUA/ERAWE District		70	12	25	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	275	7.6	5.5	0.7
70601	Mendi HP	8	0	37	0	9	0	0	813	6.0	4.3	0	0	0	0
70603	Mogol SC	9	1	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	36.7	8.2	0
70604	Munihi HC	9	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	38.5	38.5	0
70605	Pingirip SC	9	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	31.3	31.3	0
70606	Mendi UC	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	283	0.4	0.4	0.4
70607	Topa SC	9	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	0	0	8.8
70608	Was SC	9	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	100	0	0
70609	Kip SC	8	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19	0	0	0
70610	Marara CHP	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MENDI/MUNIHI District		77	30	71	0	9	0	0	813	6.0	4.3	416	7.5	3.6	1.0
70701	Det HC	9	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	54	5.6	5.6	3.7
70702	Inu SC	8	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	12.0	12.0	4.0
70703	Kantobo SC	9	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0
70704	Nipa DH	9	123	17	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	10.0
70705	Pimaga DH	9	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45	2.2	2.2	0
70706	Pombereal SC	9	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	9.1	9.1	0
70708	Tegibo SC	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	0
70709	Yomasi CHP	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0
70710	Kaipu SC	9	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	30	6.7	6.7	0
70711	Waro SC	8	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	55	14.5	9.1	0
70712	Baguale SC	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	0	0	0
70713	Kar SC	9	16	46	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	173	24.3	14.5	12.7
70714	Bosavi SC	8	0	6	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	22	4.5	4.5	0
70716	Tamenda SC	8	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	51	9.8	7.8	0
70717	Sisibia CHP	9	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	5.1	2.6	0
70719	Aiyo CHP	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	0	0
70718	Kwaima HC	8	36	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	100	100	0
NIPA/KUTUBU District		144	194	103	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	626	11.8	8.3	4.3
Southern Highlands Province		425	296	425	12	17	1	0	849	5.8	4.1	2778	12.9	7.6	1.4



- 35/49 Health Facilities have submitted their 9/9 2024 monthly report, 13/49 HF have submitted their 8/9 monthly reports and 1/49 HF have submitted 6/9 monthly report. This shows that the timeliness of monthly report submission in the province is very good.
- Malaria Clinical cases has been done in most HF's so during the visit HF staffs were advised to STOP doing clinical diagnosis. A total of 296 Clinical Cases were reported from January to September 2024.
- There was a Clinical death reported in lalibu District Hospital, which this was an error with reporting.
- lalibu District Hospital and Mendi Provincial Hospital are the only 2 HF's who are currently doing Malaria Microscopy
- Positivity Rate is below 50% which shows that Malaria is decreasing in the Province
- **Most Malaria Positive cases are Imported cases.**
- From January to September 2024 a total of 2,778 done and reported in the Province. And a total of 425 Positive cases reported.
- **All 35 Health Facilities that were physically visited are using the ENHIS reporting tablet to do their monthly report except for Yomasi HC in Nipa/Kutubu District, they have a faulty tablet which is still with the PHIO in Mendi for report.**

MALARIA TREATMENT PROTOCOL

Most Health Facility visited are following the Malaria Treatment Protocol well. However, few HF's are not following the treatment protocol because Malaria is not that common so they tend to forget the treatment. However, during the visit one on one refresher training on the treatment protocol was done.

INTERMITTENT PREVENTATIVE TREATMENT IN PREGNANCY (ipTP)

Most health Facilities visited are not practicing the current Intermittent Preventive Treatment for Pregnant mothers. So during the visit an onsite training was conducted in all the HF's that were physically visited. Health staffs are done starting to practice this new treatment protocol.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Completed SHP Q3 Visit in 2 weeks
- Coverage Rate of 75.5%
- Full Participation of the PMS and the PDCO during this Q3 Trip
- Santos Foundation Partnership (supported with Fuel, Accommodation and meals at Moro)
- Continuous Onsite Malaria refresher training were done during the visit.
- NO STOCK OUTS of Malaria Commodities



CHALLENGERS

- No Proper Storage Space to keep the Malaria Buffer stock in the Province.
- Security Issues
- 2 weeks is a short Period of time to visit SHP
- Expired drugs found at the HF during the visit.
- Overstock of RDTs and ACTs at the Health Facility
- No Drug Rotations done in Q1&2 which causes a lot of expired drugs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- PHA to assist with a Proper storage space to keep the Malaria Commodities.
- PHA to recruit an assistant PMS to accompany the current PMS since the current PMS is at his Old Age.
- Strengthen Partnership with Santos
- Reduce Drug Quantity for SHP
- Logistics Team to liaise with AMS Hagen to make sure NO ACTs, RDTs and Primaquine is packed in the 100% Kits
- Vehicle hire should always be a local hire in Southern Highlands and not anywhere else.
- Continue to follow up with Santos Foundation for the signing of MOU between RAM and Santos Foundation
- Continuous Drug Rotation
- **RMC Quarterly Visit should be made twice in a Year.**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

1. Southern Highlands Provincial Health Authority
 - The Chief Executive Officer- Dr. James Birisi
 - Director Public Health- Mr. George Epei
 - Provincial Disease Control Officer- Mr. Randy Joe
 - Deputy Director Public Health Programs- Mr. Michael Mombu
 - Provincial Health Information Officer- Ms. Sally Kura
 - Southern Highlands Transit Medical Store Security
 - All the Health Facilities OICs and Health Staffs who were present during the Q3 visit.
 - Provincial Malaria Supervisor Mr. Riki Sipi
2. Santos Foundation
3. NMCP
4. RAM
5. Global Fund



PHOTOGRAPHS



Picture 1 taken at Yaria HC, Picture 2 is at Kar HC and Picture 3 is at Samberigi HC. All these 3 photos were taken during the onsite refresher training with HF staffs on the Treatment Protocol, Recording and Reporting.



Picture 1 taken at Marorogo with the SIC, PDCO & RMC and Picture 2 is taken at Kaupena HC during the Q3 Visit.





Picture 1 is taken at Waliame HC with the Health facility staffs outside the HC during the Q3 visit and Picture 2 is taken with the PHA Team & Ms. Nancy Aloitch Yawiro- Program Manager Health- Santos Foundation.



Picture 1 & 2 is taken at AMS Hagen, it shows the PMS, PDCO and the RMC loading the vehicle with SHP Malaria drugs.





Picture 1 shows the storage container in Mendi Transit Medical Store where Malaria Commodities are kept. Picture 2 shows 14 cartons of near expired Malaria drugs and few surplus drugs removed from SHP stock to be send to Madang Province.



Picture 1 & 2 shows expired RDTs, Primaquine and Duo Cotexcin removed from the Health Facility dispensary shelves.

