



Report On World Hepatitis Day Activity Held At Rumde Community, Yola North Local Government Area 28th July, 2024

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INTRODUCTION

The **Hepatitis B sensitization and screening activity** was a collaborative effort between the Jeneso Development Initiative and Hepatitis B Foundation. This initiative was aimed to raise awareness and provide free screening and vaccination services to help the participants to understand their hepatitis B status. The exercise targeted 200 adults aged 18 years and above for screening, as well as 150 for vaccination. The project took a crucial step in combating this deadly disease, which disproportionately affects the black race and has been recently reported to be prevalent in Nigeria.

The testing and vaccination was voluntary and free so as to encourage the clients to be aware and conscious of their health status, through education and early detection. This joint effort by the intervening partners and the clients will significantly contribute to the fight against the viral hepatitis B, thereby promoting better health outcomes for the individuals and the community at large. A counselling session was held for each of the clients tested, informing them of their status and the next step to take, whether positive or negative, as revealed by the test result.

METHODOLOGY

Over the course of the two days activities (including radio Session), a comprehensive sensitization, free screening and vaccination of viral hepatitis B was carried out. The primary objective of the outreach was to raise awareness about viral hepatitis B and to sensitize the clients (also listeners from radio program) on potential causes of the disease. The exercise was conducted in a well structured and organized form, as briefly outlined below.

Team Organization:

The Personnel engaged for the exercise were efficiently organized into three distinct teams:

Radio Session:

Crete awareness of viral Hepatitis

Registration Team:

Responsible for collecting essential information from participants.

Screening Team:

Conducted tests to detect signs of viral hepatitis.

Vaccination Team:

Administered vaccines to persons tested negative.

Counselling Team:

Provided guidance and support to individuals during the process.

Stakeholders Engagement:

As part of community entry, a courtesy visit was made to the Ministry of health and Rumde clinic in Yola North Local Government Area. The purpose was in twofold:

1. Informing the Ministry of health/Clinic:

The team briefed the ministry of health and clinic staff about the upcoming screening and vaccination initiative.

2. Seeking Support:

The clinics in cooperation provided conducive atmosphere for the activity.

Announcements and Outreach:

- During the event, announcements were made by HEWA to inform the community members of our ongoing activity.
- Recognizing the initial low turnout, the team took proactive measures by conducting and intensified announcements in the community. The team circulated throughout the community, ensuring that everyone was aware of the ongoing sensitization, screening and vaccination services of hepatitis. This singular strategy greatly increases the turnout of persons for the exercise.

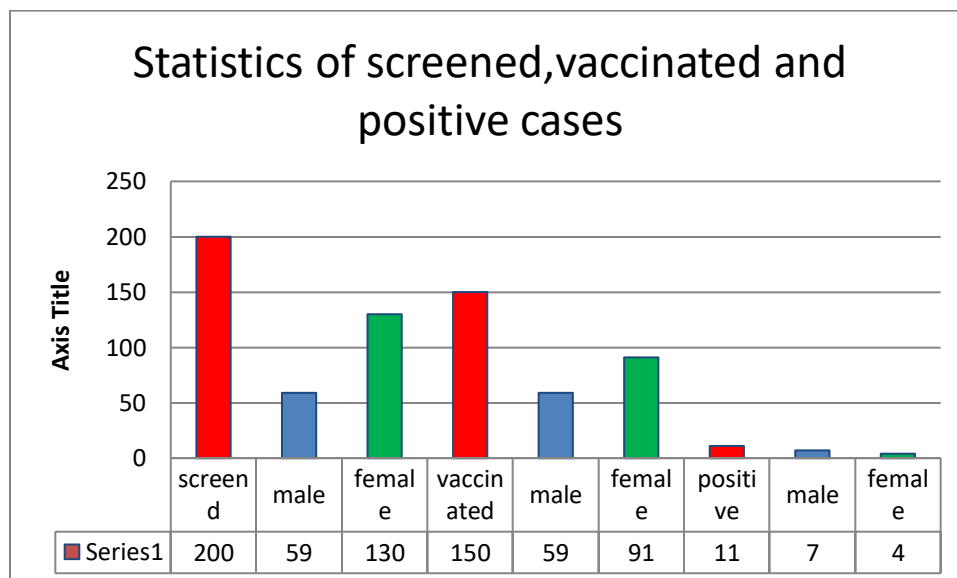


Chart. 1: The Chart 1 above shows the disaggregated results of the persons tested for the viral hepatitis B status. The result indicated that a total of 130 female were tested, which was higher than the 59 males that were tested. A total of positive cases of 4 were recorded among the females, while the positive cases among the male was 7. The figure indicated that a total of 200 persons were tested, with 11 positive cases recorded.

KEY FINDINGS

Below is the summary of the key findings as obtained from the world Hepatitis Day activity.

- Participants have limited knowledge on viral hepatitis
- Most people are aware of their status but cannot afford treatment due to high cost.
- People will be more willing to get tested if there are drugs available for treatment.
- There are local assumptions that people use Carmel urine as cure for Hepatitis B.
- People are willing and ready to be tested.
- The highest cost (\$6.35) of liver function test (LFT) makes it inaccessible to people as well as the profiling with a cost of (\$4.40).

CONCLUSION

The activity was successful, it went as expected with the team sensitizing, screening and vaccinating the people of Rumde community as well as a live transmission sensitizing the general public through radio station. The activity targeted 300 persons who got full knowledge on viral hepatitis, got tested and vaccinated as well as counselling to those deemed fit. Some of the key takeaways of the exercise include:

Awareness and Empowerment:

- The project targeted **300 adults aged 18 years and above**, aiming to raise awareness about Hepatitis B. A total of 200 persons were sensitized, screened and vaccinated.
- By offering **free screening services**, participants gained insights into their health status.

Community Impact:

- Hepatitis B disproportionately affects the black population and is prevalent in Nigeria.

- The exercise contributes significantly to the fight against viral hepatitis B, promoting better health outcomes for individuals and the community.

Counseling and Next Steps:

- Each client received personalized counseling based on their test results.
- Whether positive or negative, participants were informed of the next action to take in order to better their health status/ condition

In summary, the activity during the World Hepatitis Day exemplifies the zeal and willingness of both the team and the community in fight against viral Hepatitis, and the also the action towards eliminating viral hepatitis in Nigeria. By fostering awareness and early detection, the viral hepatitis B can be combated, ensuring a healthier future for all. Together we can make a difference for a better hepatitis B free society.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the result of this activity the following were recommended

1. Vaccination Program:

- Initiate a comprehensive vaccination program to safeguard individuals, especially those who tested negative during the screening.
- Target all age groups, emphasizing the importance of hepatitis B vaccination.
- Prioritize infants and children by administering the vaccine soon after birth, followed by boosters.

2. Wider Sensitization and Screening:

- Expand outreach efforts across the state to reach a broader audience.
- Engage community leaders, schools, and local organizations to promote awareness and encourage participation.
- Utilize various communication channels: workshops, community meetings, social media, and local radio.

2. Linkage to Care Mechanism:

- Establish a robust system for infected individuals to access appropriate care and treatment.

- b) Collaborate with healthcare facilities to provide affordable or subsidized drugs for hepatitis B.
- c) Ensure continuity of care: Regular follow-ups, monitoring, and adherence to treatment protocols.

By implementing these recommendations, we can collectively combat hepatitis B in our target selected communities, thereby improving health outcomes, and create a healthier community faced by threat of hepatitis B.

Activity photos



Fig 1.0 Radio session at fombina FM



fig 1.1 sensitization at Rumde Clinic



Fig 1.2 screening



fig 1.3 registration point



Fig 1.4 vaccination exercise



fig 1.5 presentation at stake holder meeting



Fig 1.6 stakeholders' presence at ongoing activity



fig 1.7 group photo with stakeholders



Fig 1.8 Doctors Consultation with patient.



Fig 1.9 Doctors Consultation with patient.