

NATIONAL JIGGER DAY - 15 / 3/2022.

KALOLENI SUB COUNTY - GABRIEL KAHINDI PRIMARY SCHOOL.

THEME : COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT THROUGH ERADICATION.

Tungiasis is an emerging neglected disease found in Africa. It is highly endemic in rural Central Kenya and coastal Kenya sandy areas and associated with considerable morbidity. The disease is associated with poverty. Tungiasis is caused by **female sand fleas**, which burrow into the skin and lay eggs. Tungiasis can cause abscesses, secondary infections, gangrene and disfigurement. The disease is found in most tropical and subtropical areas of the world; the poorest people carry the highest burden of the disease.

Jigger flea, also known as sand flea, *Chigoe* or *Tunga penetrans* is an ecto-parasite which causes Tungiasis parasitic condition of humans and animals. The flea survives best in sandy and dusty environments

The flea affects many impoverished populations living in sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and South America. Hundreds of millions of people are at risk of infection in more than 70 nations, mostly in developing countries.

In endemic areas, prevalence ranges from 15-40%.

Jigger transmission from one person to another is not possible but it occurs through the insanitary environment. The jigger flea causes debility in resource-poor communities of developing countries.

In some communities, the prevalence may be as high as 50% in the general population.

2 million pop in Kenya are affected by jiggers menace.

Tungiasis is usually considered an entomologic nuisance and does not receive much attention and therefore remains an important public health problem for the poor.

Reported cases within Kaloleni sub county.

Areas infested with jiggers	Adult	Children
Tsangatsini A CHU	27	17
Mnazimwenga CHU	13	16
Kibwabwani CHU		17
Mutsengo CHU	32	
Vishakani CHU	6	4
Kidzini village	9	13
Kaptuku Village	3	5
Total cases	90	72

Effects of tungiasis.

- ✓ Itching
- ✓ Pain upon pressure
- ✓ Sleep disturbance
- ✓ Walking difficulties
- ✓ School absenteeism/drop outs ..
- ✓ No concentration in classes
- ✓ Social degradation - Jiggers have a major socio-economic impact as it immobilises its victims and condemns them to live in isolation with majority losing their source of income.
- ❖ The risk of secondary infection is high. Tetanus is a common secondary infection that has reported associations with death.

Contributing factors – social /environmental.

- ✓ Living in houses with an earthen floors.
- ✓ Walking barefooted.
- ✓ Sharing a common resting place outside.

- ✓ Presence of rats in the compound.

Prevention and control.

- Use of potassium permanganate (antiseptic) and petroleum jelly is the most effective non-invasive way of treating jigger infestations. This treatment has been demonstrated to eradicate the jiggers, enabling affected children and adults to return to work or school. The treatment is quick, effective, and painless.
- Fumigation, spraying and dusting of households.
- House hold and personal hygiene.
- Community screening and refferal.