



# Mosquito Nets Are We Taking Them Seriously?

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## Introduction:

Malaria has been a serious issue in our country for several years. An increasing mortality rate due to Malaria has been proportional with the increasing human population. This issue was almost the major concern of the government, various organizations and individual citizens. Through media and publications the information about the disease (endemic) had been communicated to people.



Look at the report from the news paper (it was 1990)

## Sampling

We organized a pilot study that was conducted by using two neighboring families. This was done prior to the study of the sample that was selected from the population of Rwagati village. Random sampling was used, whereby 20 families were selected from the nearby village (Rwagati village located in Muleba District). The only factor for our choice was that, the standard of life and level of literacy is almost the same in rural areas throughout our country.

## Gathering of information and analysis of data

The method used enabled us to collect both quantitative and qualitative data. The quantitative data were analyzed basing on two ways of representing data involving counts; that is, pie charts and bar charts so as to quickly orient our viewers. Also through descriptive statistics we could be able to get measures of central tendency.

### Malaria kills 400 in Dodoma"

A TOTAL of 400 people died of Malaria in Dodoma Region between 1986 and 1989, while 836,000 suffered from the disease during the same period, it was disclosed here recently.

A statement issued this week by Dodoma Region Medical Officer Ndugu Andrew Kuhesa also said that 217 malaria patients out of the total of 13,450 admitted at the hospital died during the same period.

Dodoma Rural District had the highest number of sufferers, 409,445 people in total, but the number of deaths was not known due to lack of records. (Shihata reported).

The number of patients and death toll (in brackets) was: Kondoa 240, 170 (75); Dodoma urban 146, 825 (107) and Mpwapwa 26, 102 (1)

Higher number of malaria cases in Dodoma Region was due to the lack of measures to control mosquito and the environment that favoured their reproduction, said Kuhesa.

Daily News 9.11.1990.

## Results:

The non-experimental methods used worked as we could be able to achieve our project objectives. With all the government efforts, we have revealed that, the percent of malaria cases has generally decreased only by:

62% among the infants

66% among the adults

The decrease has been accompanied by fluctuations in morbidity and mortality as follows:

Morbidity and mortality rate was generally highest in 2007

Steady fall since 2008 to 2010

There was a sudden increase by almost 73% since 2011 which is still in progress!

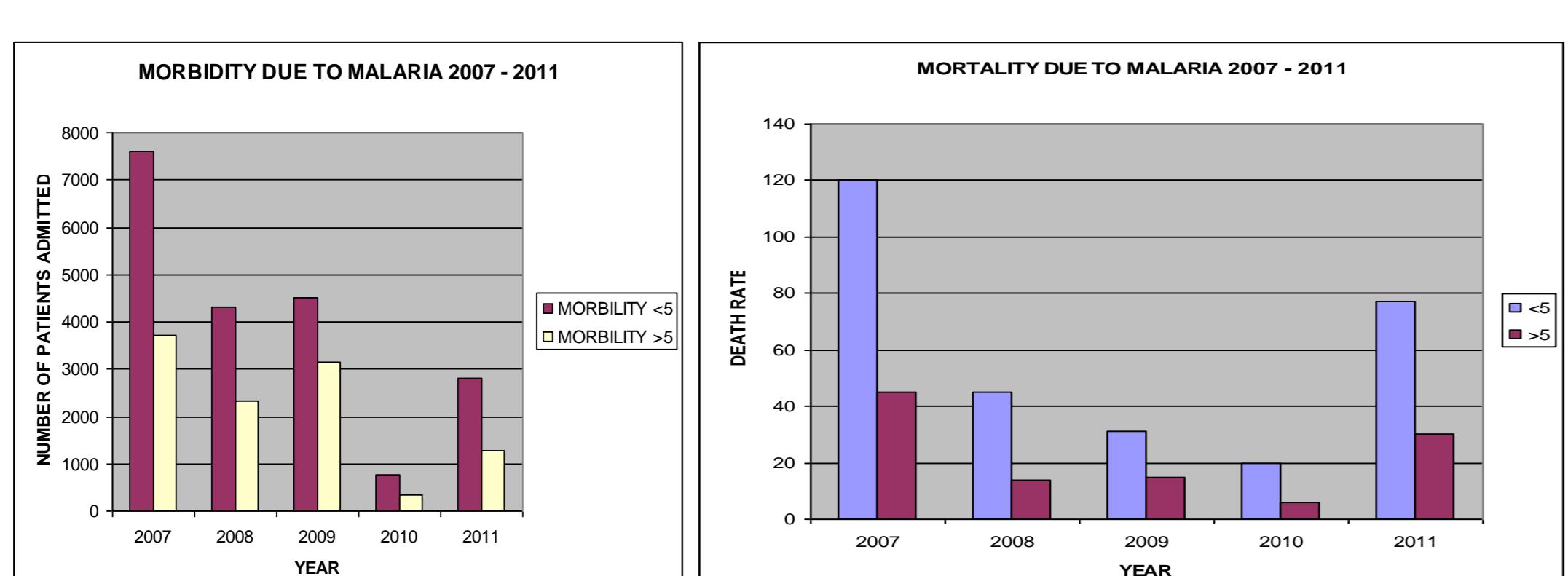


Figure 1 Morbidity and Mortality since 2007 – 2011.  
Source: PHC – Ruby DDH

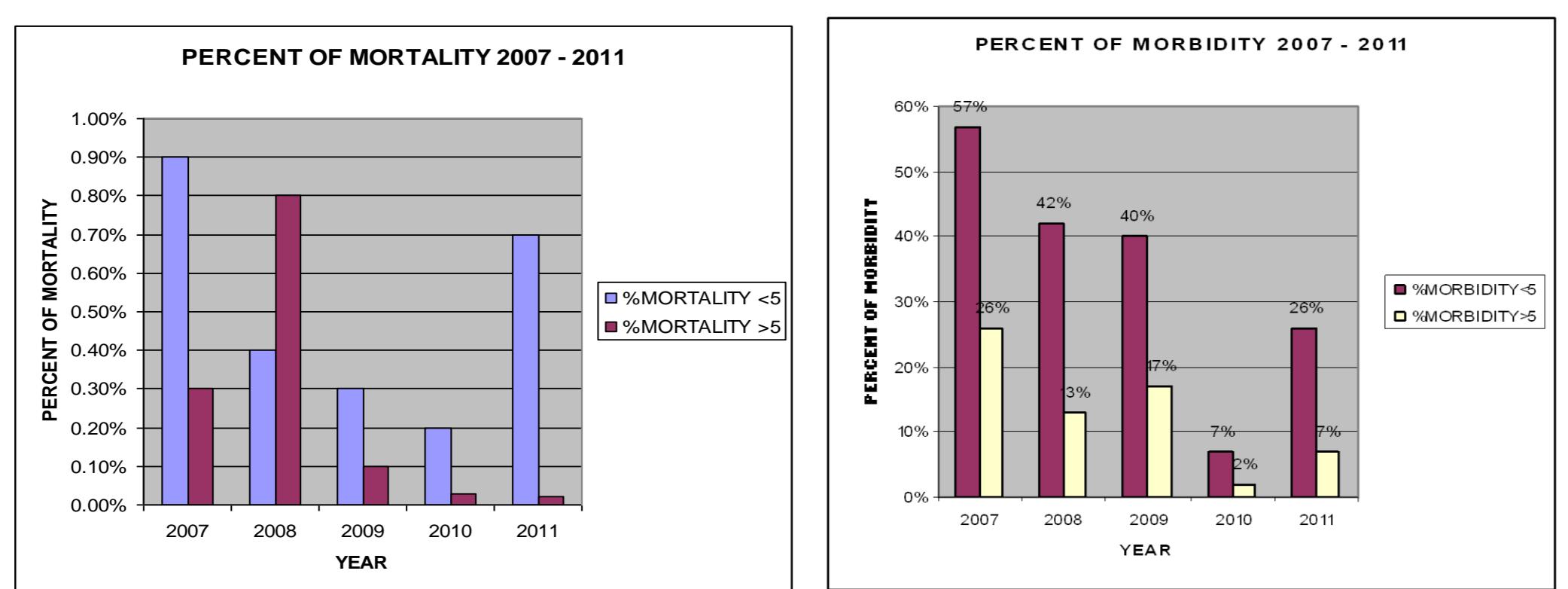


Figure 2. Percent of Morbidity and Mortality since 2000 - 2011  
Source: Ruby DDH

Table 2: Morbidity, mortality, total number of patients, percent of morbidity and mortality due to malaria

YEAR	MORBILITY		MORTALITY		TOTAL NUMBER OF PATIENTS		%MORBIDITY		%MORTALITY	
	<5	>5	<5	>5	<5	>5	<5	>5	<5	>5
2007	7603	3715	120	45	13,336	14,037	57%	26%	0.90%	0.30%
2008	4298	2318	45	14	10329	18,289	42%	13%	0.40%	0.80%
2009	4509	3156	31	15	11,375	18,149	40%	17%	0.30%	0.10%
2010	761	344	20	6	10,686	19,661	7%	2%	0.20%	0.03%
2011	2817	1267	77	30	10,667	18,207	26%	7%	0.70%	0.02%

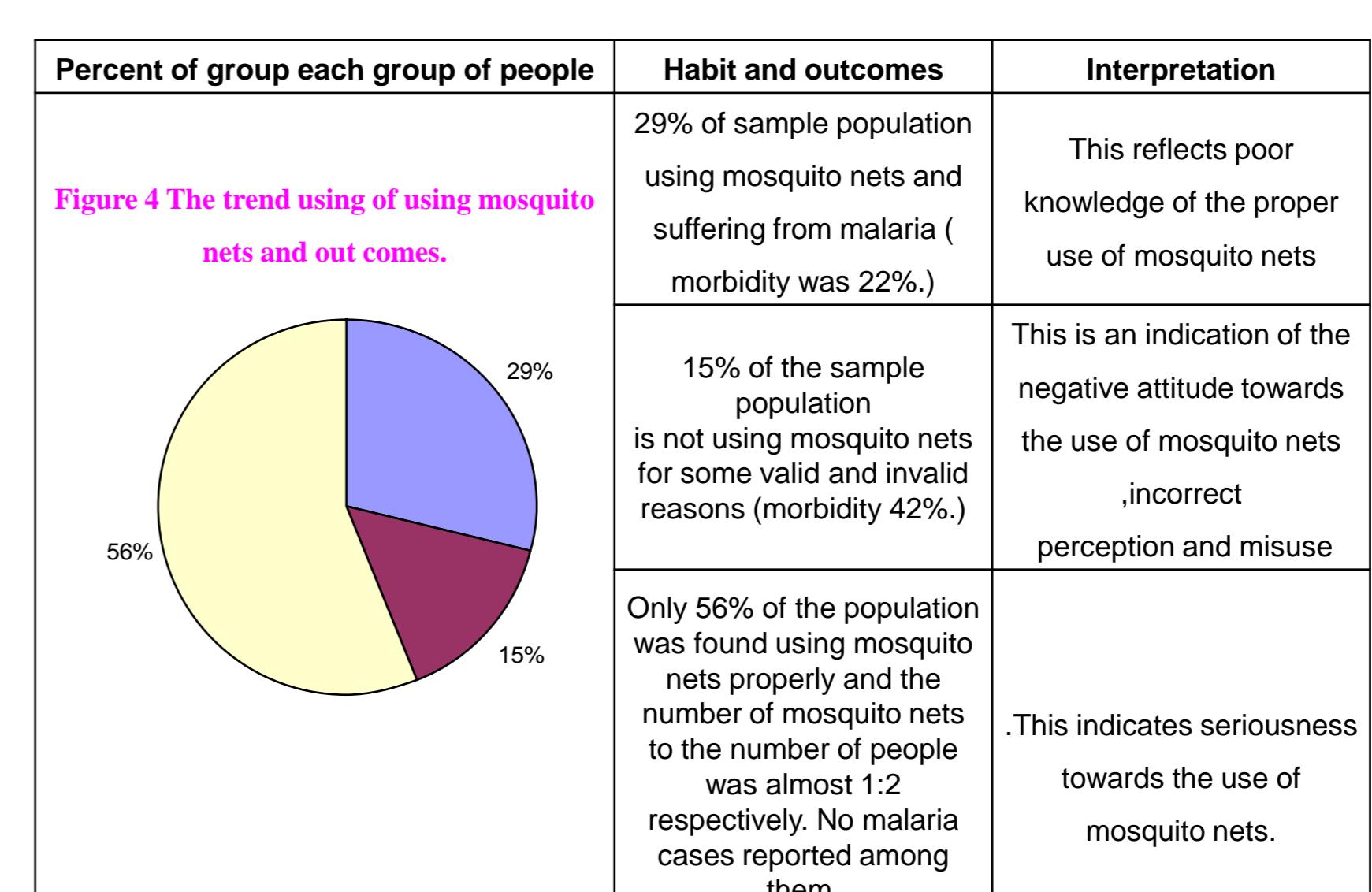


Figure 4 The trend using of using mosquito nets and outcomes.

**Conclusions:** The results are real conclusive and interesting since they comply with the hypothesis. Along with other malaria controlling methods, the proper use of mosquito nets is very essential if we want to free ourselves from malaria attack. As the results show any further lenience regarding the use of mosquito nets will make the situation worse.

## Recommendations

The government and other organizations should fulfill the following tasks:

Education among the people.

Collection of all relevant data

regarding the size of the beds and number of people.

Setting regular specific time intervals of evaluating the outcomes about the use of mosquito nets so as to rectify the situation if necessary.

## Further information:

Download at: [www.youngscientists.co.tz/posters](http://www.youngscientists.co.tz/posters)