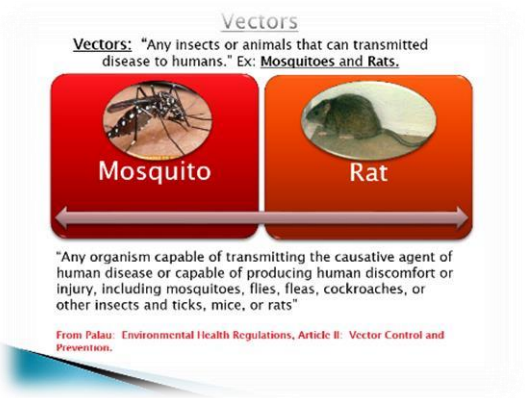
Vector borne Diseases Assessment and Prevention Campaign, July – August 2023
Aimeliik, Ngatpang, and Ngeremlengui States

Objective: To improve sanitation and hygienic practice of the residence of five state in Palau by providing education and hands on training to each household to learn to identify, manage and minimize risk to vector-borne diseases and inform residential of upcoming SUPA Project Town Hall meeting and trainings.



Method: Vector borne diseases surveillance system and Information, Communication & Education (IC & E)

Activities: Household assessment and education

Outreach activity
State: Ngermlengui
Date: July 5 to July 16, 2021
Data:
Household population: 107
Surveyed: 107

Results:
Solid waste: 0%
Liquid waste: 36%
Toilet: 8.4%
Yard maintenance: 45%

There were total of 107 residential homes assessed for their poor sanitary and hygienic condition in Ngeremlengui state. Education and on-site training administered according to condition and level of risk observed at each household.

State: Aimeliik
Date: July 28 – Aug 12, 2021,
Data:
Household population: 100
Surveyed: 100

Results:
Solid waste: 5%
Liquid waste: 40%
Toilet: 9%
Yard maintenance: 61%

Aimeliik state is made up of five villages; Imul, Ngerkeai, Elechui, Ngchemiangel and Medorm. There were total of 100 household assessed for their sanitary and hygienic condition. In response to these defects, on-site education was provided with walk-around

yard identifying and removing debris and stagnant water that could have potential breeding sites for mosquito.

State: Ngatpang
Date: July 20 – 27, 2021
Data:
Household population: 57
Surveyed: 57

Results:
Solid waste: 5.2%
Liquid waste: 22%
Toilet: 5%
Yard maintenance: 47%

Ngatpang state is made up of two villages – Ibobang and Mechebechubel with 57 residential homes. Yard maintenance and liquid waste management observed as major findings for this state followed with general yard cleanliness and maintenance. Based on these sanitary factors, education and training was provided on site.

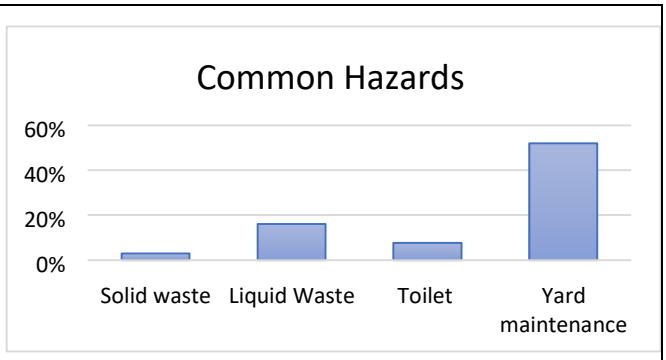
Vector borne prevention summary

State Governor and Rep meeting to finalize SUPA Outreach

The Division of Environmental Health of the Bureau of Public Health, MOHHS, conducted a vector-borne surveillance and educational campaign in the state of Aimeliik, Ngatpang, and Ngeremlengui. There were total of 264 household assessments conducted in these states and four priority areas were identified as a route to vector infestation and a risk to vector borne diseases. The following priority areas were common among these states:

- Solid waste: abandoned chunk equipment i.e. old cars, boats, washing machine, stove, tires, et.
- Liquid waste: stagnant water for mosquito breeding sites form water leak due to plumbing issues, proper drainage and sewage system,
- Toilet system: outside latrines and sewage system not properly maintained
- Yard maintenance: litters and uncut grass and debris seen at yard

According to our data, it shows high percentage of household not properly have their Yard clean and maintained. As observed, there were also mosquito larva feeding from stagnant water from litters, trash, tires, flower bed/pot around the house. Solid waste materials have lowest percentage but have high probability for rodent infestation, mosquito resting site and lead poisoning.



Education and training tips

On-site education and training was conducted to each household according to level of need. Household yard cleanliness and maintenance education provided including walkaround inspection to identify and remove of any debris that hold water for mosquito breeding, secure and cover equipment that can trap water and resting sites for rodent. Another immediate training tips was monitoring and management of wastewater system to avoid stagnant water, develop bad smell, and feeding site for rodent. In addition, Step-by-Step process to design and construct simple cesspool was also demonstrated and given guidance brochures.

Challenges

- Social and cultural events in conflict with the scheduling of SUPA activities
- Weather events and COVID activities

Strength

- Pick-Up Truck to bring team to and from state and to conduct 100 Percent household coverage and provide education & on-site training
- Mosquito surveillance trap have given DEH solid data to make inform decision and education. (SUPA donation)
- Household education campaign provides opportunity for the team to inform families of the upcoming SUPA trainings.

Lesson learnt

- Household education campaign is found to be an effective tool for service provider to understand physical and financial needs of the families. It also provides comfortable and flexible space for families to voice out their needs and challenges for health provider to know how to help them.

Attachments and photos: