

Prevalence and factors associated with persistent transmission of *Schistosoma haematobium* among primary school children after five rounds of mass drug administration using praziquantel: A cross sectional study in Mkuranga district, Tanzania

Veronica Richard Kajembe, Dinah B Gasarasi, [...], Donath S Tarimo, Mayala Lushina, and Boniphace Sylvester

First published online August 2, 2022

<https://doi.org/10.1177/00494755221103088>

Abstract

Despite a human schistosomiasis control programme through praziquantel mass drug administration (MDA) between 2011 and 2015, there was still persistent transmission among primary schoolchildren (PSC) in Mkuranga district, Tanzania. Our cross-sectional study was conducted among 396 PSC who provided urine for diagnosis of *Schistosoma haematobium* infection. Observations were conducted to determine PSC water contact activities. Logistic regression was used to test association between dependent and independent variables. We found MDA uptake among PSC as 72.5%, and the prevalence of *Schistosoma haematobium* infection 5.8%. The risk of infection increased among PSC engaged in fetching water and adjusted odds ratio (AOR) for swimming, bathing, fishing, crossing ponds and paddy fields were 0.123, 0.166, 0.232, 0.202 and 0.093 respectively. Thus we conclude that multiple water contact activities and low participation in MDA is responsible for persistent *Schistosoma* transmission.