

Complementary feeding practices associated with wasting of children 6-23 months old in Dilala, Lualaba province, DRC, 2017

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Background: Malnutrition is in high prevalence in some developing countries, like Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) mostly among children from 6 to 23 months. Complementary Feeding is among the main causes of malnutrition worldwide.

Objectives: The present study aimed to assess the complementary feeding practices associated with acute malnutrition in DRC.

Methodology: A community-based cross-sectional study was conducted from October 23 to November 25, 2017 in DILALA Health Zone, using a three-stage stratified cluster-sampling technique. In 10 Health Areas, 698 children 6-23 months old were assessed on nutritional status and their mothers interviewed on complementary feeding practices. Household questionnaire pretested and revised, standardized anthropometry equipment and World Health Organization recommendations were used with trained data collectors. ENA for SMART and Logistic regression on SPSS 23 were used to data analysis.

Results: Wasting was associated with lack of knowledge on minimum meal frequency (a adjusted odds ratio=2.4, CI 1.14-5.11), minimum dietary diversity (a adjusted odds

ratio=0.23, CI 0.055-0.981) and protected source of drinking water (a adjusted odds ratio=0.50, CI 0.26-0.93).

Conclusion: Wasting was more increased among children whose mothers were without knowledge on minimum meal frequency of complementary feeding, but more prevented in children having met minimum dietary diversity and in children from household with protected source of drinking water.

Speaker Biography

Ngoy Bulaya Emmanuel, a Nutritionist in Public Health (2005). He obtained his MPH in Epidemiology, Preventive Medicine and Disease Control at the School of Public Health, Lubumbashi University (2007). He obtained his MPH in Nutritional Epidemiology at the School of Public Health, Kinshasa University (2017). He was elected and became the provincial president of the DRC nutritionist's association in the entire Katanga Province from (2009 - 2012). In September 2009, University of Lubumbashi, at the School of Public Health, appointed him as Assistant Professor in Nutrition Unit while the DRC Health Ministry designated him as Provincial Coordinator of National Nutrition Program (2009 – 2015). He worked at the School of Agronomic Studies as Secretary of the Manager Committee (2003 - 2006).

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