

Participatory Video Intervention for Hygiene and Childhood Wasting in the Dadaab Refugee Complex

A Case Study

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ABSTRACT

{ "background": "Childhood wasting remains a critical public health challenge in protracted refugee settings, where poor hygiene practices exacerbate malnutrition. The Dadaab refugee complex presents a complex environment for implementing sustainable health interventions.", "purpose and objectives": "This case study evaluates the implementation and effect of a novel participatory video intervention designed to improve caregiver hygiene knowledge and practices, with the ultimate aim of reducing childhood wasting rates.", "methodology": "A mixed-methods case study was conducted within selected camps. The intervention involved community members in co-producing hygiene education videos. Their effect was assessed using pre- and post-intervention household surveys measuring hygiene behaviours and mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) in children under five. The primary analysis employed a logistic regression model: $\logit(P(Wasting_i = 1)) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot Intervention_i + \beta_2 \cdot \xi + \epsilon_i$, where ξ is a vector of covariates, with robust standard errors clustered at the community level.", "findings": "The intervention was associated with a significant improvement in reported handwashing with soap at critical times, increasing from 22% to 47% of observed households. A reduction in the prevalence of childhood wasting was observed in intervention communities, with the odds ratio estimated at 0.62 (95% CI: 0.48, 0.81). Qualitative data highlighted enhanced community agency and knowledge retention as key themes.", "conclusion": "Participatory video shows promise as a culturally resonant tool for improving hygiene and reducing wasting in refugee camp settings, suggesting that community-led visual media can effectively translate health education into practice.", "recommendations": "Integrate participatory video into routine health and nutrition programming in humanitarian contexts. Future interventions should allocate resources for sustained community facilitation and longitudinal impact assessment.", "key words": "participatory video, wasting, hygiene, refugee health, nutrition, Kenya, behaviour change", "contribution statement": "This study provides novel evidence on the

Keywords: *Participatory video, Hygiene promotion, Childhood wasting, Dadaab refugee complex, Sub-Saharan Africa, Community-based intervention, Malnutrition*

Article Highlights

- Participatory video increased reported handwashing with soap from 22% to 47% of households.
- Analysis showed a significant association with reduced odds of childhood wasting (OR: 0.62).
- Qualitative findings highlighted enhanced community agency and knowledge retention.

Methodological Note

Effect assessed via pre/post surveys measuring hygiene behaviours and mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) in children under five, with analysis using a logistic regression model clustered at community level.

This case study examines a novel application of community co-produced media within a protracted refugee setting.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The method offers a culturally resonant tool for health translation in camp settings.	
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