

Role of CHVs in Improving on Prevention and Control of Pneumonia in Nairobi County, Kenya

Bryson Sifuma

Amref Health Africa, Kenya

Abstract

The world health organization confirms that Pneumonia is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality in children less than 5 years. Pneumonia poses risk factors e.g. under nutrition, sub optimum breastfeeding and zinc deficiency. Through Amref & GSK Partnership, Amref Health Africa trained community health workers on diagnosis, management and control of Pneumonia. The project had both protective and preventive strategies at the community level. Advocacy initiatives also in place to increase public awareness for management monitoring and evaluation to generate data for practice and policy change. Both face to face and m-Learning approach was used to train community health workers on effective management of Pneumonia in kasarani and Embakasi sub counties. An evaluation of the training project wanted to find out the effect of training community health workers as well as document lessons learnt and best practices. 6591 pneumonia infected children less than 5 years enrolled on treatment and 55% of them on follow up through CHVs. 814 health care workers were trained on Pneumonia through a blended approach. 2396 people were reached through Pneumonia education. There is improved adherence to treatment by community members. Observed reduction in admissions because of complications of pneumonia. There is also improved patient tracing and referral to the health facility. Training of community health workers is essential towards

effective management and control of Pneumonia. Community dialogue days are important for information sharing & education among caregivers on prevention and management of Pneumonia. Community engagement is key in identification, education, and referral and follows up of patients.

Biography:

Bryson sifuma completed his Bachelor of arts Degree (Economics and Business studies) at age of 24 years from Kenyatta University and Certificate in Human Resources and Personnel management from Cambridge International college, certificate in Monitoring and Evaluation and Practical project management from Amref Health Africa and Certificate on Management in Health from the university of Washington. He is the project officer of Amref GSK infectious diseases and Non communicable diseases project, a non-government organization in Kenya. He has published more than 2 papers on management of non-communicable diseases.