

ABSTRACT

Biosand filters were introduced to residents of Kisinga sub county to probably prevent Typhoid fever out breaks. Although people were using biosand filters, they were still being infected with typhoid. This inspired the researcher to assess the knowledge, attitudes and practices towards use of biosand filters among residents in Kisinga Subcounty.

The objective of the study was to assess the knowledge, attitudes and practices towards use biosand filters among residents in Kisinga Subcounty in prevention of typhoid fever in 2016. The study employed a cross- sectional study design on 92 biosand filter users in Kisinga Sub county who had used biosand filters for at least a year. Quantitative methods enabled the researcher to collect numerical data on biosand filter use that was used to perform analysis using conventional statistical procedures and the researcher used Purposive sampling method in the selection of the participants.

Results; It was found out that the majority of the respondents had high knowledge, attitudes and good practices towards use of biosand filters but with a bad practice of hand washing (99%).

Conclusions and recommendations; Since 99% of the biosand filter users didn't wash their hands with soap before dispensing water from storage, a half of the BSF users didn't know that it's not recommended to add high turbid water to the filter and almost a half of the biosand filter users couldn't fix biosand filters if they got a problem in functioning, the „use of biosand filter“ among the residents of Kisinga subcounty was „fair“ even though respondents generally had high knowledge, positive attitudes, and good practices towards biosand filter use.

So, Community health workers should prioritise teaching biosand filter users the importance of washing hands with soap before dispensing water from the storage container, KCCWP or any other stakeholder should teach BSF beneficiaries about the turbidity of water recommended to be used on

BSF and Ministry of health or any other stake holder like ministry of water and environment should improve on monitoring the biosand filter users.