

Intestinal parasitic infestations (IPIs) are among the neglected tropical diseases yet widespread and also regarded as one of the leading causes of disease worldwide. Knowledge of the burden and transmission of these parasites would be important in designing effective approaches in the control and elimination of these parasites in different settings. In this study, the prevalence and factors associated with intestinal parasitic infestations among pupils of Kalongo town council, Agago district was determined.

This was a cross-sectional study conducted between February and July 2015, involving 383 school going children. Stool specimens were collected from the children and examined both macroscopically and microscopically. Questionnaires based interviews were conducted to obtain information on factors associated with intestinal worm infestation.

The prevalence level of intestinal parasitic infestation was 42.8%. The predominant parasite was Giardia Lamblia. Knowledge of intestinal worm infestation, utilization of health facility, de worming and wearing of shoes were shown to confer protection against intestinal worm infestations. School grade, employment status, handling of fecal matter and hygiene, proximity to water body, playing in water bodies , use well/tap water for home consumption were shown to be associated with increased prevalence of intestinal worm infestations.

The high prevalence of intestinal worm infestations among pupils from Kalongo Town Council calls for regular de worming programs to ensure reduction in the prevalence rates.

Transfer of effective de worming models from health facilities to schools would not only ensure a wider coverage, but allow for adherence to the regular de worming intervals recommended by the National policy. In addition Health education programs on control and prevention of intestinal worms should be emphasized.