

Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention in Nigeria

Coverage Summary Report 2016 v2

Background: Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention supported by the ACCESS-SMC project was introduced in 35 LGAs in Sokoto and Zamfara States in 2016. The first monthly cycle was delivered in late August /early September and the final cycle took place in late November / early December. Due to delays in supply of SMC drugs, it was not possible to deliver the 1st cycle in all 35 LGAs. There were 7 LGAs in Zamfara which did not do SMC in cycle 1, and 10 LGAs in Sokoto where cycle 1 was done only in selected wards within the LGA. The indicators in table 1 show the results for LGAs that received all 4 cycles, whilst the results in table 2 show the results for all areas combined.

It is important the SMC programme is monitored to ensure the intervention is delivered effectively reaching the children that need it. WHO recommends that children should receive all four monthly cycles, and should adhere to the treatment dose each month, in order to maximise protection and minimise selection for drug resistance. As part of the monitoring of the SMC programme in Nigeria, a coverage survey was carried out in late December/early January with support from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, to determine the proportion of children that received each monthly treatment, and to ask about adherence to the treatment doses, and reasons for missed treatments.

Key messages:

In areas where 4 cycles were delivered in 2016, the reach of the SMC programme was been good, 90% of children received least one cycle of SMC.

Some caregivers reported their child had been treated, but had not received an SMC card. Only 62% of children were reported to have received an SMC card in 2016. 67% of those who received a card had retained the card by the time of the survey.

50% of eligible children received at least 3 cycles of SMC, and 30% received all 4 cycles.

When coverage at each of the four monthly cycles was assessed, coverage was lower in cycles 3 and 4 than in cycles 1 and 2 (63%, 60%, 37% and 20% for cycles 1,2,3 and 4 respectively).

A high proportion of children were reached by the programme but additional practical measures are needed to minimise the number of children who miss SMC treatments.

As in other countries implementing SMC, a high proportion of children above the age limit for SMC reported receiving SMC (63% of 6-7 year olds surveyed).

Bednet coverage was low, only 34% of children were reported to have slept under an insecticide treated net the night before the survey.

Key indicators 2016:

Number surveyed who were eligible for all 4 SMC cycles	931
Slept under a bednet last night	34.1%
Received an SMC card	62.0%
<i>Confirmed by card if available, otherwise from caregiver recall:</i>	
Received at least one cycle	89.6%
Received at least 3 cycles	50.1%
Received all 4 cycles	29.8%
Received no SMC	10.4%
For those that had SMC at the last cycle, adherence to all 3 doses	86.0%
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Children 6-7yrs old who received SMC at least once	62.8%

Table 1: Key indicators of SMC Coverage in LGAs that received all 4 cycles – Nigeria

Number children 3mons–7yrs included	1265					
Number eligible for all 4 SMC cycles \$	931					
	n/N	%	95% Confidence Interval			
Slept under a bednet last night	307/927	34.1	(22.9-47.3)			
Received SMC card	592/931	62.0	(48.5-73.9)			
Retained card if card received	394/931	66.7	(58.2-74.2)			
Received SMC cycle 1	589/931	62.9	(51.7-72.8)			
Received SMC cycle 2	561/931	60.3	(49.1-70.6)			
Received SMC cycle 3	343/931	37.4	(27.7-48.3)			
Received SMC cycle 4	183/931	19.5	(12.2-29.8)			
	Confirmed by card if available, otherwise recall			Maximum by card or recall		
No. of SMC cycles	n/N	%	95% Confidence Interval	n/N	%	95% Confidence Interval
0	105/931	11.9	(6.4-20.9)	92/931	10.4	(5.2-19.9)
1	185/931	20.1	(12.8-30.0)	172/931	18.8	(11.6-28.9)
2	205/931	20.7	(13.8-29.8)	206/931	20.7	(13.5-30.3)
3	183/931	19.1	(13.0-27.3)	194/931	20.3	(13.9-28.8)
4	253/931	28.3	(18.1-41.3)	267/931	29.8	(19.2-43.2)
Received no SMC*	92/931	10.4	(5.2-19.9)	92/931	10.4	(5.2-19.9)
Received at least one cycle	826/931	88.1	(79.1-93.6)	839/931	89.6	(80.1-94.8)
Received at least 3 cycles	436/931	47.4	(34.5-60.6)	461/931	50.1	(36.7-63.5)
Received all 4 cycles	253/931	28.3	(18.1-41.3)	267/931	29.8	(19.2-43.2)

Percentages are survey -weighted and will not equate exactly to n/N. Eligible is defined as aged at least 3 months at time of first cycle, and under 5 years at time of survey. *this is confirmed as no receipt, rather than failure to indicate receipt.

Table 2: Key indicators of SMC Coverage – Nigeria. All areas combined.

Number children 3mons–7yrs included	2221					
Number eligible for all 4 SMC cycles \$	1662					
	n/N	%	95% Confidence Interval			
Slept under a bednet last night	623/1651	38.4	(29.0-48.9)			
Received SMC card	1084/1662	64.4	(54.3-73.4)			
Retained card if card received	810/1084	75.2	(68.7-80.7)			
Received SMC cycle 1	835/1662	49.4	(39.9-58.9)			
Received SMC cycle 2	927/1662	55.9	(46.9-64.5)			
Received SMC cycle 3	636/1662	38.6	(30.6-47.3)			
Received SMC cycle 4	271/1662	16.0	(10.8-23.2)			
	Confirmed by card if available, otherwise recall			Maximum by card or recall		
No. of SMC cycles	n/N	%	95% Confidence Interval	n/N	%	95% Confidence Interval
0	254/1662	15.9	(10.0-24.4)	238/1662	14.9	(9.0-23.7)
1	320/1662	19.4	(13.2-27.6)	296/1662	18.0	(12.0-26.2)
2	368/1662	21.2	(15.8-27.8)	370/1662	21.2	(15.7-28.2)
3	400/1662	24.1	(17.6-32.2)	419/1662	25.2	(18.6-33.3)
4	320/1662	19.4	(12.5-28.8)	339/1662	20.6	(13.4-30.1)
Received no SMC*	238/1662	14.9	(9.0-23.7)	238/1662	14.9	(9.0-23.7)
Received at least one cycle	1408/1662	84.1	(75.6-90.0)	1424/1662	85.1	(76.3-91.0)
Received at least 3 cycles	720/1662	43.5	(34.0-53.6)	758/1662	45.8	(36.0-55.9)
Received all 4 cycles	320/1662	19.4	(12.5-28.8)	339/1662	20.6	(13.4-30.1)