

BRIDGING GAPS: INNOVATE FOR MALARIA PROJECT



Demonstrating a Sense of Entitlement for improved health care

John Mensah of Nuabesa, a project and farming community in the Nzema East District, took his granddaughter with severe malaria to the Axim Government Hospital. Nuabesa community does not have a health facility and the nearest facility (CHPS compound) which is 2 km away could not offer her granddaughter the required treatment for malaria.

They were thus transferred to the municipal hospital, Axim Government Hospital which is also about 19km from Nuabesa community for treatment. On reaching the hospital, they were informed by the nurses that the doctor on duty had closed and was at the car park getting ready to leave for the house. They quickly moved to the car park and implored the doctor to attend to their granddaughter but the doctor

was reluctant insisting that he had closed for the day and had to go home. John Mensah insisted that his granddaughter had the right to quality health care regardless of the circumstances. After persisting and insisting for care to be provided, the doctor went back to the consulting room to provide care to the young girl whose condition at the time was nothing to write home about.

John Mensah remarks, “if I didn’t know my rights and didn’t have the skills to demand for this right to be met, I would have lost my granddaughter”. John Mensah is extremely happy about the B4M project in his community and says that the project provides opportunities for community members to know about their health rights and responsibilities and to increase their knowledge on malaria prevention, treatment, care and management. He suggested an extension of the project to other underserved communities to help improve the quality of primary health care and malaria services.

Find out more about the B4M project on www.arhr.org.gh



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The B4M project has supported the education of 36,898 community members in Ghana since the start of the project, contributing to efforts to empower communities through rights based education. The project uses community-centred research to provide health providers and decision makers with the evidence to supply quality health care.