

# 18

## Vector control

### OVERVIEW

Many different diseases are caused by vectors. They include malaria, dengue fever and Rift Valley fever.

### What you can DO

- ➔ It is very important to remember that spraying chemicals to get rid of vectors can be dangerous, especially if you do not have the proper equipment or materials and do not know how to do it.
- ➔ ALWAYS ask professionals to spray against vectors (only help if you are trained/guided by a professional).
- ➔ However, there are many ways that volunteers can help, including promoting proper hygiene and sanitation methods.
- ➔ Talk to people in your community about storing food/water properly, keeping shelters/houses and the community clean, using bed nets at night, and wearing clothing (e.g. with long sleeves) that protects against vectors such as mosquitoes.
- ➔ See the table on the other side of this sheet for more information on how volunteers can help.



*Keep the community clean*



*ALWAYS ask professionals to spray against vectors*

**Use community message(s): 11, 20**

# 18 Vector control

## Personal protection methods and hygiene practices against selected vectors

Vector	Disease(s) carried	Other methods	Vector hygiene methods
Anopheles mosquitoes	Malaria Lymphatic filariasis	Chemoprophylaxis, mosquito nets (impregnated)	Residual indoor spraying, burning mosquito coils at night, space spraying before retiring (bedroom needs to be screened for effectiveness)
Culex mosquitoes	Lymphatic filariasis Japanese encephalitis	Mosquito nets (impregnated), repellents	Elimination of breeding sites in compound
Aedes mosquitoes	Viral encephalitis Dengue/DHF2 Yellow fever Lymphatic filariasis	Repellents	Elimination of breeding sites in and around house
Cockroaches	Diarrhoeal infections		Kitchen hygiene, removing all food leftovers at night
Houseflies	Diarrhoeal infections Eye infections		Kitchen hygiene, proper (re)heating of cooked food, daily rubbish removal
Tsetse flies (Glossina)	Sleeping sickness	Repellents, impregnated clothing	Avoiding riverside laundry and defecation, installation of tsetse traps in human settlements
Bedbugs	None	Mosquito nets (impregnated)	Regular airing and washing of bedding and beds
Jigger fleas	None	Wearing shoes	Pig control in residential areas, chemotherapy of dogs and cats, pesticide treatment of adjacent land
Lice	Epidemic typhus Relapsing fever Trench fever	Chemoprophylaxis	Body hygiene, including use of shampoos, laundry clothes
Rodents	Plague Leptospirosis		Rat-proofing of houses and storage facilities, rubbish removal, kitchen hygiene