

Soft Power Health Third Quarter Update 2012

The third quarter was busy and productive, both at the clinic and with all the outreach programs. We had a number of volunteers work with us in the summer months. One set of volunteers from the Mt. Sinai Global Public Health program researched malnutrition and another volunteer from the University of Rochester worked on malaria net follow ups. We look forward to seeing the results of their research shortly. In addition, we added the treatment of Trachoma to our family planning outreach programs.

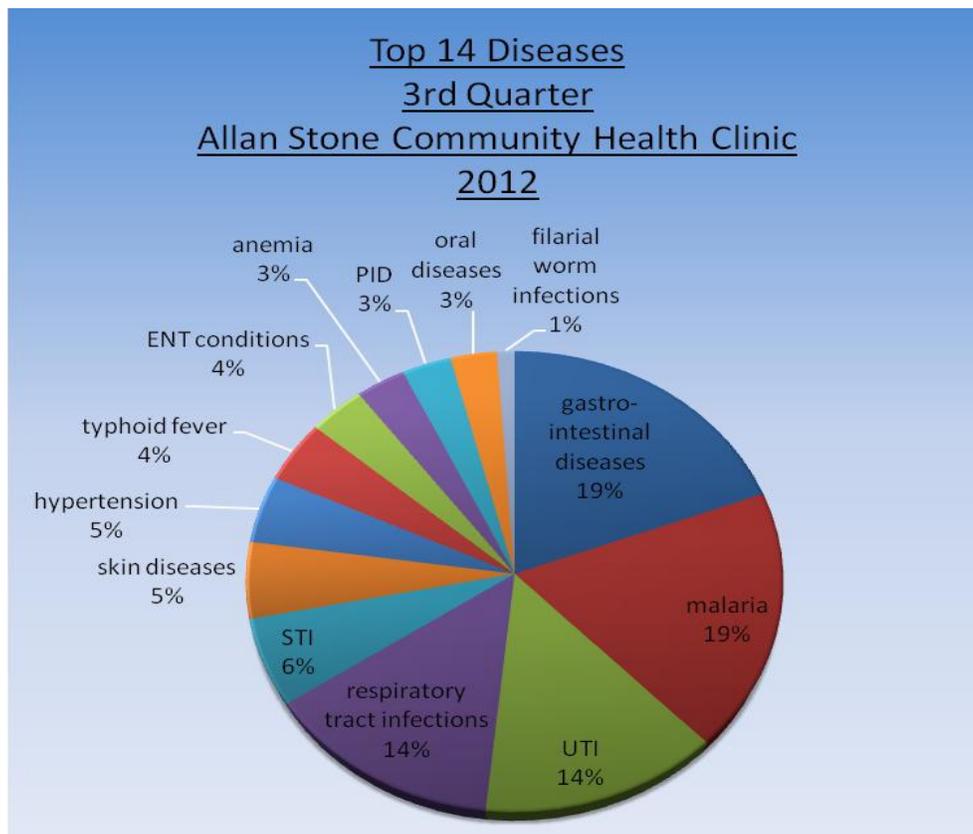
The Allan Stone Community Health Clinic

In the third quarter of 2012, The Allan Stone Community Health Clinic treated 4,828 people. Of that number, we referred 185 patients for treatment in Kampala or elsewhere. As predicted, we are well on track to treat close to 20,000 people this year. This is a huge increase, especially when 12,000 patients kept the clinic busy last year!

Top 14 conditions we treated this quarter:

As indicated in the chart below, gastro-intestinal diseases and malaria again ranked highest among the most commonly treated conditions at the clinic this quarter (703 and 671 cases, respectively). Interestingly and for the first time since we have opened the clinic, malaria is no longer the number one disease we are treating. This was followed by: urinary tract infections (510) respiratory tract infections (500 total — 58 of these infections were pneumonia), sexually transmitted infections (227), skin diseases (195), hypertension (172), typhoid fever (158), ENT conditions (129) anemia (114), pelvic inflammatory disease (112), oral diseases and conditions (105), and filarial worm infections (40).

In addition, 39 cases of diabetes, 0 cases of AIDS, and 22 cases of eye conditions were also diagnosed and treated at the clinic. In addition, 1801 people were tested for HIV and only 101 had positive tests.



Mother and Child Wellness Center - third quarter:

At the Mother and Child Wellness Center, 32 children and adults received treatment for severe malnutrition and 211 children were vaccinated. Since the beginning of July, 99 Depo-Provera injections for three-month birth control were administered at the Center, and 12 women received 3 months supply of birth control pills each. Also, 12 new long term contraceptive implants and 22 IUDs were inserted, and 9 implants were removed. Finally, 305 condoms were distributed.

At our third permanent and long-term methods event this year that we co-organized with Marie Stopes Uganda (MSU) on August 15, 2012, 9 tubal ligations were performed, along with 1 vasectomy. 41 contraceptive implants were inserted and 5 were removed, and 1 new IUD was inserted while 1 IUD was removed, and four 3- month injections of Depoprovera were administered. We are thrilled by the very positive response we receive to these comprehensive family planning days. We hope to broaden our reach into more communities in need over time with these outreaches and combined family planning days.

Family Planning Outreach:

Family Planning Outreach continues to be successful and popular, as demonstrated by our numbers this quarter. Since July, 635 injections of Depo-Provera have been administered and birth control pills have been given to 66 women. We also distributed 1016 doses of albendazole to deworm 1016 children this quarter. As a reminder, studies done in Uganda show that deworming children significantly improved not only weight gain but also cognitive development.

In addition, despite the ongoing shortage of condoms in Uganda, we were able to distribute 4740 condoms—up from 3450 last quarter. We continue to receive donations of condoms from our volunteers, which is incredibly helpful. Thanks so much to everyone helping to make this possible.

Finally, we treated 118 individuals for Trachoma with Azithromycin. The treatment of Trachoma is the latest addition to our outreach program. Here is a little information about Trachoma since it is a little known disease in the West:

Trachoma is the result of infection of the eye with *Chlamydia trachomatis*. Infection spreads from person to person, and is frequently passed from child to child and from child to mother, especially where there are shortages of water, numerous flies, and crowded living conditions. Infection often begins during infancy or childhood and can become chronic. If left untreated, the infection eventually causes the eyelid to turn inwards, which in turn causes the eyelashes to rub on the eyeball, resulting in intense pain and scarring of the front of the eye. This ultimately leads to irreversible blindness, typically between 30 and 40 years of age.

Malaria Prevention and Outreach:

This quarter we have sold 3361 nets (this number includes 2663 nets sold during outreach and 698 sold at the clinic). We also followed up on the use of 282 nets sold at previous education sessions. Take a look below at the new striped nets! We are still selling out of these almost as fast as we can get them in!



Malaria educator Sarah in action at a malaria education and prevention session with net sale.