

WORLD CONGRESS ON RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASE

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Title: ADHERENCE TO BENZATHINE PROPHYLAXIS AMONG RHEUMATIC FEVER AND RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASE PATIENTS ATTENDING OUTPATIENT CLINIC AT LIRA REGIONAL REFERRAL HOSPITAL, UGANDA

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Background & Aims: Background: For patients with rheumatic heart disease and rheumatic fever, optimal adherence to routine Benzathine penicillin (BPG) prophylaxis is considered a critical strategy to prevent adverse health outcomes. However, adherence rates and underlying factors are not well characterized in developing world.

Objective: To examine the level of adherence to Benzathine prophylaxis and associated factors among RHD and RF patients attending outpatient clinic at the Lira Regional Referral Hospital.

Methods: Methods: This was a mixed method study using a retrospective cohort design. Data abstraction from Lira RHD Registry to acquire information on adherence to monthly BPG injections was done. Key informant in-interviews with RHD patients, care givers, and healthcare professionals were conducted. Logistic regression model was used to analyze independent variables at significant level set at 0.05%. Thematic analysis was used to analyze qualitative data

Results: Results: Overall, 57.8% (89/154) of patients were adherent to BPG prophylaxis. Patients with tertiary education had significantly better adherence. ((AOR 2.69, 95% CI: (1.00-7.3), P=0.049).). Factors associated with adherence included nature of the disease, lack of transport to health facility, inadequate knowledge of the nature of the disease. Whereas health system related factors included frequent medicine stockout, poor provider client relationship, high out of pocket expenses and lack of staff availability

Conclusions: Conclusion: BPG adherence among RHD and RF patients was sub-optimal. To increase adherence, action must be taken to address factors at individual, community and health system levels