



**How are the Village Health  
Volunteers delivering malaria  
testing and treatment  
services and what are the  
challenges they are facing? –  
a mixed methods study in  
Myanmar**

**Nay Yi Yi Linn, Jaya Prasad Tripathy, Thae Maung  
Maung, Khine Khine Saw, Lei Yee Win Maw, Badri  
Thapa, Zaw Lin, Aung Thi**

Joint International Tropical Medicine Meeting,  
12 – 14 December 2018 , Thailand



# Background, Objectives and methods

- **Background:**

- Village Health Volunteers (VHVs) play a key role in delivering community based malaria care especially in hard-to-reach areas in Myanmar.

- **Objectives:**

- i) to understand the cascade of malaria services (testing, diagnosis, referral and treatment of malaria) provided by the VHVs under the National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP) in Myanmar in 2016, and compare with other health care providers,
- ii) to explore the challenges in delivery of malaria services by VHVs.

- **Methods:**

- A sequential mixed methods study was designed with a quantitative followed by a descriptive qualitative component. The quantitative study was a cohort design involving analysis of secondary data available from NMCP database whereas the qualitative part involved 16 Focus Group Discussions (08 each with community and VHVs) and 14 Key-Informant Interviews with program stakeholders in four selected townships.

# Findings and conclusions

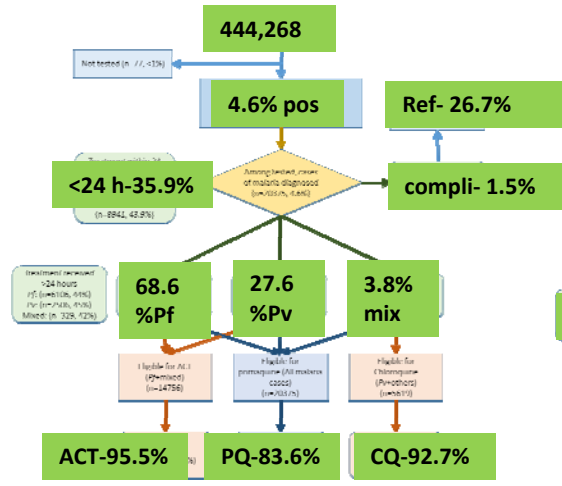


Fig1. Flowchart showing the cascade of malaria care

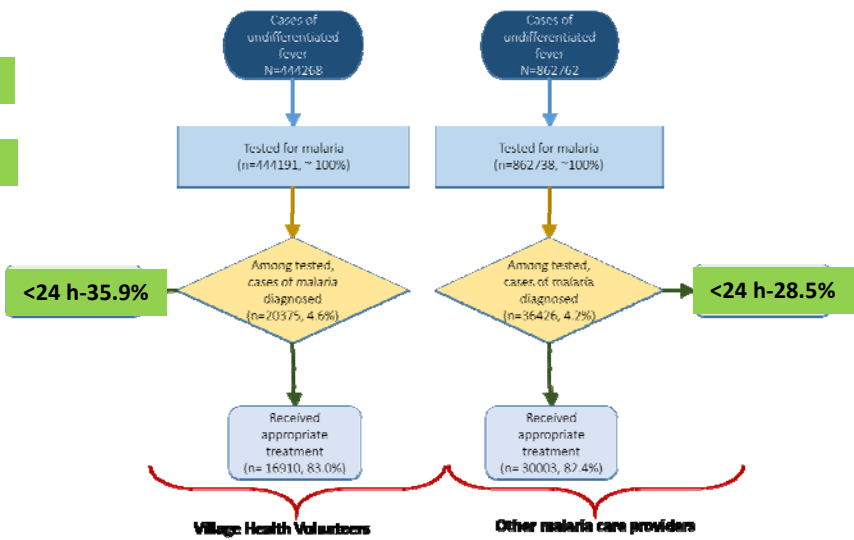


Fig2. Flowchart comparing the cascade of care by VHV and others

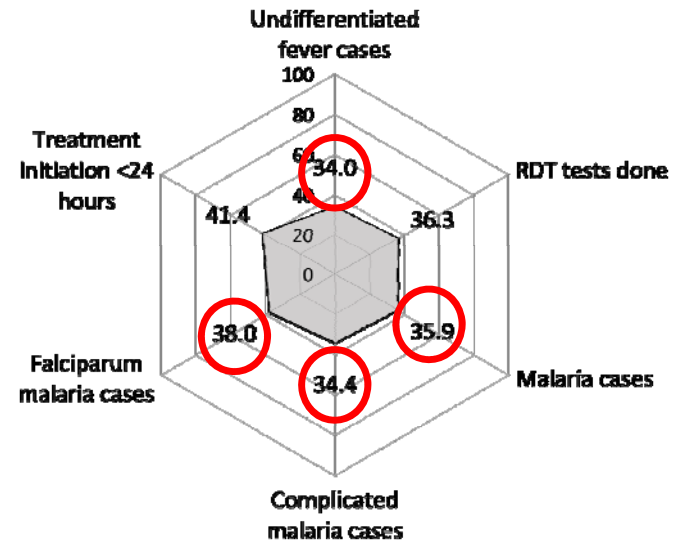


Fig 3. Contribution of village health volunteers

## Challenges

- Theme 1 Work related challenges
- Theme 2: Logistic challenges
- Theme 3: Community perception and acceptance for VHVs
- Theme 4: Suggestions to improve performance of VHVs

## Conclusion

VHVs play an important role in malaria diagnosis and management in Myanmar, especially in hard-to-reach areas, with their performance comparable to other health care providers. More programmatic support to VHVs is needed in terms of logistics, transportation allowance and supervision to improve CCM of malaria in remote areas.

THANKA YOU