

Figure 1

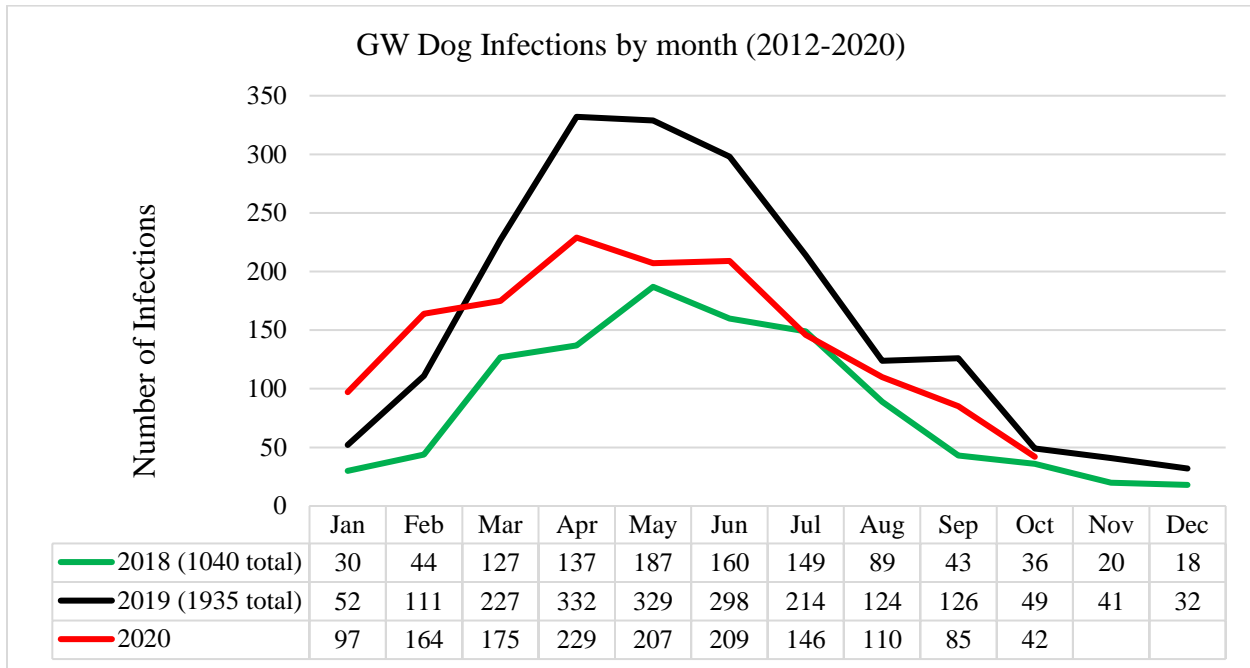


Table 1 compares some indices of interventions, impact, and surveillance in Chad’s Guinea Worm Eradication Program (CGWEP) in 2018, 2019, and 2020. Use of Abate larvicide rose from 24% of endemic villages in 2018 to 68% in both 2019 and 2020, while the proportion of all animal and human Guinea worm infections that were contained was 74% in 2018, 76% in 2019, and provisionally 84% in 2020. An improvement in containment rates was observed in priority at-risk villages since April 2020 due to a new strategy of proactive containment of animals initiated that month, which reached a rate of 80% (424/531) of domestic dogs and cats from April to November 2020.

MALI

After reporting zero Guinea worm cases in humans, 46 dog infections, and 4 cat infections in the four years 2016-2019, Mali has reported 1 laboratory-confirmed human case and 8 confirmed dog infections in January-October 2020. Forty-one (69%) of these 59 infections were contained. The locations of detection of this one human case and 58 animal infections by district and year are as follows:

Table 2

| Location of detection of human cases and animal infections in Mali, 2016-2019 | | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|------|-------|
| District/Region | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020* |
| Tominian/Segou | 11 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 1 |
| Djenne/Mopti | | 5 | 8 | 3 | 3 |

failure to construct a single water point was underlined as a major deficiency and the new RWB Head, Kan Gatluak, promised to act promptly. The meeting ended with concrete action points, recommendations, and plan for a follow-up advocacy visit to Gambella to be led by Minister Lia as well as H.E Gambella Regional President Omod Ojulu and his cabinet. The consolidated recommendations that emanated from the consultative meeting will be used as input for developing a comprehensive EDEP plan of action with a clear and defined role to relevant stakeholders for 2021.

Mr. Mesfin Wossen, Director of Disease Surveillance and Response in the Ethiopian Public Health Institute, shared the country's experience in responding to the Guinea worm disease outbreak during the COVID-19 pandemic in the Third Joint Meeting of Preventive Chemotherapy and Case Management NTD National Program Managers in The WHO Africa Region which was held virtually from 7 to 11 December 2020.

The Ethiopia Public Health Institute (EPHI) appointed a new Deputy Director General effective March 4, 2020: His Excellency Mr. Aschalew Abayneh, who earned his Master of Public Health degree from Gondar University. He was Adviser at the Ministry of Health for six years before being appointed as the Deputy Director General of the Ethiopian Public Health Institute. The EDEP welcomes the DDG and looks forward to his stewardship in the eradication of Guinea worm disease from Ethiopia.

ANGOLA

Ms. Giovanna Steel, Associate Director of the GWEP at The Carter Center, arrived in Angola in early November for a joint field visit to Cunene Province with representatives from the Angolan Ministry of Health, the National Technical Certification Committee for Guinea Worm Eradication, and WHO, to follow up on development of community-based surveillance and response to Guinea worm infections.

Approximately 50 community agents were trained in August-September 2020 in 27 of the 35 villages known to be endemic or at risk for Guinea worm infections. Following an assessment, 19 additional villages will be placed under active community-based surveillance. I

Table 4

Number of Laboratory-

RESEARCH TO ADVANCE ERADICATION AND SUPPORT CERTIFICATION

The Carter Center, WHO, and CDC have collaborated on a research agenda for Guinea worm disease since 2010. The main objective of the initial research group (The Carter Center, WHO, CDC), with contributions from the International Commission for the Certification of Dracunculiasis Eradication (ICCDE), national programs and donors, was to accelerate eradication by stopping transmission, while also considering research needs to inform the certification process of countries with animal infections (domestic and wildlife). Given the need to scale up the broad research agenda, early in 2020 The Carter Center GWEP hired Fernando Torres-Velez, PhD, DVM and Maryann Delea, PhD, as Associate Director for Research and Staff Epidemiologist respectively. Dr. Torres-Velez, a veterinary pathologist with 20 years of infectious disease

feed on copepods, these could potentially be use as a sampling matrix to indicate

NEW GUINEA WORM WARRIOR

Mr. Yujing Zhao joined the Guinea Worm Eradication Program at Carter Center headquarters in early November as a Data Analyst. Prior to joining the program, he was a statistician for government healthcare organizations in South Carolina, where he focused on COVID-19, HIV, stroke, and hospital-acquired infections. Zhao holds a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of South Carolina and a master of public health degree from the Medical University of South Carolina. Welcome Yujing!!

EX-

funds can be used to provide rural folk with water”. When the Government of Ghana accepted The Carter Center’s assistance in fighting Guinea worm disease, President and Mrs. Carter visited Accra to attend the Second African Regional Conference on Dracunculiasis Eradication in March 1988 and met with Flt-Lt Rawlings and other government officials. To officially inaugurate

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Molyneux DH, Eberhard ML, Cleaveland S, Addey R, Guiguemde RT, Kumar A, Magnussen P, Breman JG, 2020. Certifying Guinea worm eradication: current challenges. The Lancet 396:1857-1860.

Perini T, Keskinocak P, Li Z, Ruiz-Tiben E, Swann J, Weiss A, 2020. Agent-based simulation for seasonal Guinea worm disease in Chad dogs. Am J Trop Med Hyg 103:1942-1950. [doi:10.4269/ajtmh.19-0466](https://doi.org/10.4269/ajtmh.19-0466)

World Health Organization, 2020. Monthly report on dracunculiasis cases, January-August 2020. Wkly Epidemiol Rec 95:554-555.

Inclusion of information in the Guinea Worm Wrap-Up does not
constitute “publication” of that information.
In memory of BOB KAISER

Note to contributors: Submit your contributions via email to Dr. Sharon Roy (gwwrapup@cdc.gov) or to Adam Weiss (adam.weiss@cartercenter.org), by the end of the month for publication in the following month’s issue. Contributors to this issue were: the national Guinea Worm Eradication Programs, Dr. Donald Hopkins and Adam Weiss of The Carter Center, Dr. Sharon Roy of CDC, and Dr. Dieudonne Sankara of WHO.

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Back issues are also available on the Carter Center web site English and French are located at http://www.cartercenter.org/news/publications/health/guinea_worm_wrapup_english.html.
http://www.cartercenter.org/news/publications/health/guinea_worm_wrapup_francais.html*



CDC is the WHO Collaborating Center for Dracunculiasis Eradication