

Malaria cases on the rise in Tororo

TORORO

By Faustine Odeke

Despite the Government's efforts to eradicate malaria through indoor residual spraying and distribution of insecticide-treated nets, malaria incidences have again started rising in Tororo district. Sr. Harriet Egesa, the officer in charge of Mukuju Health Centre IV, attributed the problem to laxity in using mosquito nets.

"Whenever they come for medication, we always sensitise them on the importance of using mosquito nets and maintaining hygiene in their homesteads," Egesa said.

She made the remarks while meeting Tororo County North and Tororo County South MPs; Annet Nyaketcho and Fredrick Angura, respectively, who made a surprise call on the health facility on Saturday.

The visit was aimed at ascertaining the level of service delivery and understanding



Nyaketcho speaking as Angura and Egesa listen before leaving the health facility. Photo By Faustin Odeke

some of the challenges that are hampering effective and quality service provision so that lasting solutions can be sought.

Egesa and her team, who were found delivering services, took the two legislators through all the departments of the facility to assess and understand some

of the key challenges that need immediate interventions.

She said the medical facility has enough medical stock, with the personnel ceiling at 75% and they having been holding a number of health camps in the community, to reach as many people as possible, including carrying out vaccination

against Hepatitis.

She identified some of the challenges as the weak door the medical stores, which poses a big risk to drugs, limited space for the outpatient department, inadequate staff accommodation, absence of a placenta pit, lack of a cooking shade, lack of a post-natal ward, weak door locks, broken down solar system, lack of an ambulance and interrupted water supply.

She thanked development partners for supporting to the facility.

The MPs were happy to learn that the facility has never experienced any drug stock-outs. "Some Opposition MPs have always criticised the Government for not delivering enough drugs to health facilities, but I am happy to note that this facility has never run out of stock," Angura said.

They said they had taken note of the challenges and would to follow up with other relevant authorities so that they are addressed.