## Water demand and Schistosomiasis among the Gumau people of Bauchi State, Nigeria, Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ENGLAND)

A helminthological study of stool and urine samples from 1037 people from 4 rural communities in Gumau District of Bauchi State, Nigeria, was carried out using formol-ether concentration and direct centrifugation methods respectively. 39·0% of persons examined were infected. Ova of Ascaris lumbricoides, Schistosoma haematobium and S. mansoni were the most common.

Trichuris trichiura, hookworm, tape-worm and Strongyloides stercoralis were also encountered. 17·9% and 10·8% of examined persons had S. haematobium and S. mansoni infections respectively. A significant relationship was found between water demand index (number of persons per well) and infection with S. haematobium ($r = 0·95$) and S. mansoni ($r = 0·88$) ($P < 0·01$).

Such a relationship was not found with other helminth infections. A significant association was also found between distance from a river and prevalence of S. haematobium ($r = 0·94$) and S. mansoni($r = 0·95$) ($P < 0·01$), but not with the other helminth infections. These findings suggest that the water demand index may be an important factor in the epidemiology of schistosome infections in rural communities.

**Partners: World Health Organisation**

**Source: Water demand and schistosomiasis among the Gumau people of Bauchi State, Nigeria – ScienceDirect**