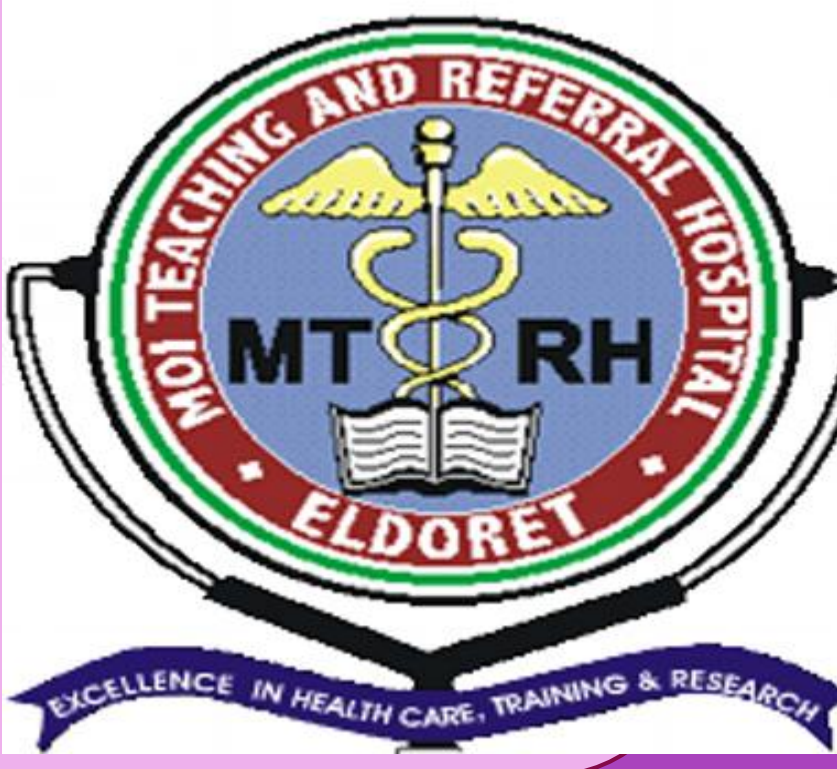


# Preventive strategies for diarrheal illnesses among children as seen at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital – Eldoret Kenya



Kiilu C. K.<sup>1</sup>, Apondi E.<sup>2</sup> Gudu E. <sup>2</sup> Marete I.<sup>1</sup>

1. Moi University, College of Health Sciences 2. Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital

## Background

- Diarrhea carries a high mortality rate among children in sub-Saharan Africa.
- There is age dependent susceptibility to morbidity and mortality caused by acute diarrheal illness among toddlers and infants.
- The Integrated global action plan against pneumonia and diarrhea is among the key strategies aiming at reduction of mortality from diarrhea and pneumonia

## Methods

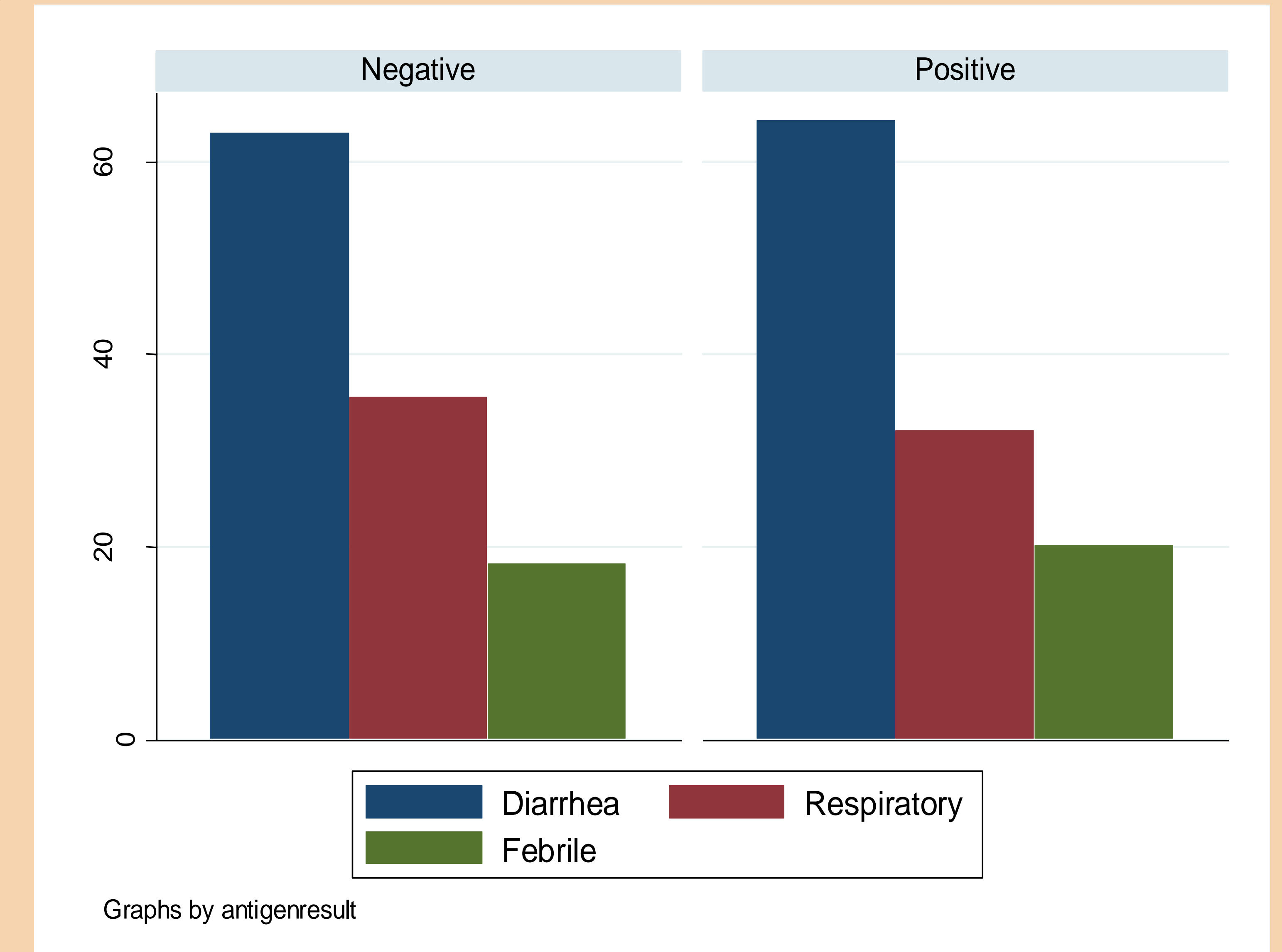
- This was a cross-sectional study describing the socio-demographic and clinical characteristics of the patients with acute diarrheal illness.

## Results

- 311 participants, under two years of age were recruited with acute diarrheal illness.
- The male to female ratio was 1:0.7, with a median age of 13.2 months (IQR 8, 19).
- The uptake of the vitamin A supplementation was 73.6%, rotavirus vaccination 83.6%. Safe water 81%, sanitation 99%, use of ORS and zinc 69%.

## Logistic regression

Dehydration level (0=non-severe; 1=severe)				
Variable	Category	Odds Ratio	P value	95% CI
<b>Vaccination status</b>	Upto date vs not upto date	1.786	0.229	0.695, 4.589
<b>Measles vaccine</b>	Vs ≥ 1	0.493	0.416	0.090, 2.706
	Vs Not Applicable	0.431	0.349	0.074, 2.513
<b>Measles vaccine</b>	≥ 1	0.423	0.164	0.126, 1.423
	Not Applicable	0.590	0.394	0.176, 1.982
<b>Vitamin A supplement</b>	Received	0.520	0.024	0.295, 0.917



## Conclusion & Recommendations

- Vitamin A supplementation reduces the odds of severe dehydration in children under two and should be further intensified among children receiving other vaccinations.
- Other preventive measures for diarrheal diseases should also be intensified due to their recorded low uptake