

# DENGUE RISK FACTORS AND COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN BINH THUAN PROVINCE, VIETNAM, A HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

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**Abstract.** To look for risk factors for dengue and community participation in dengue control in Binh Thuan Province, Vietnam, three communes with a low incidence of dengue and three with a high incidence, in Binh Thuan Province, were compared. Knowledge, perception and preventive practice of dengue were measured by means of a structured questionnaire. A check list of environmental observations was used to evaluate environmental factors. Focus group discussion was conducted to evaluate perceptions of key factors for dengue vector control and community participation. One hundred ninety households in 6 communes were included in the study. Several statistically significant differences between low and high incidence communities were identified. The factors associated with a higher risk of dengue fever on the logistic regression were occupation (farmer) (RR 7.94; 95%CI 2.29-27.55), number of children less than 15 years old in the household (RR 1.54; 95%CI 1.06-2.23), no experience with dengue fever in the household (RR 2.334; 95%CI 1.12- 4.88), a garden near the house (RR 2.22; 95% CI 1.18-4.17) and water containers having mosquito larvae (RR 1.64; 95%CI 1.02-2.62). Television was the most important source of information. There were differences in risk factors for dengue among communes with low and high incidences. Communication regarding dengue prevention should be improved in high incidence communes. Community participation in dengue vector control should be promoted to make the dengue control programs more efficient with greater coordination of resources.

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