



THE QUEEN'S
ANNIVERSARY PRIZES
FOR HIGHER AND FURTHER EDUCATION
2008

SCI

Schistosomiasis
Control Initiative

The underestimated burden of schistosomiasis and intestinal helminths

Professor Alan Fenwick OBE
School of Public Health

Imperial College
London

The Neglected Tropical Diseases

Core Group of 13

● Protozoan Infections

- Human African Trypanosomiasis (HAT)
- Chagas Disease
- Leishmaniasis

● Bacterial Infections

- Buruli Ulcer
- Leprosy
- Trachoma


● Helminth Infections

- **Ascariasis**
- **Hookworm Infection**
- **Trichuriasis**
- **Schistosomiasis**
- **Lymphatic Filariasis**
- **Onchocerciasis**
- **Dracunculiasis**

The United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – we could speed progress towards most of the MDG's

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.
2. Achieve universal primary education.
3. Promote gender equality and empower women.
4. Reduce child mortality.
5. Improve maternal health.
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability.
8. Develop a global partnership for development.

NTDs are included in
“other diseases”



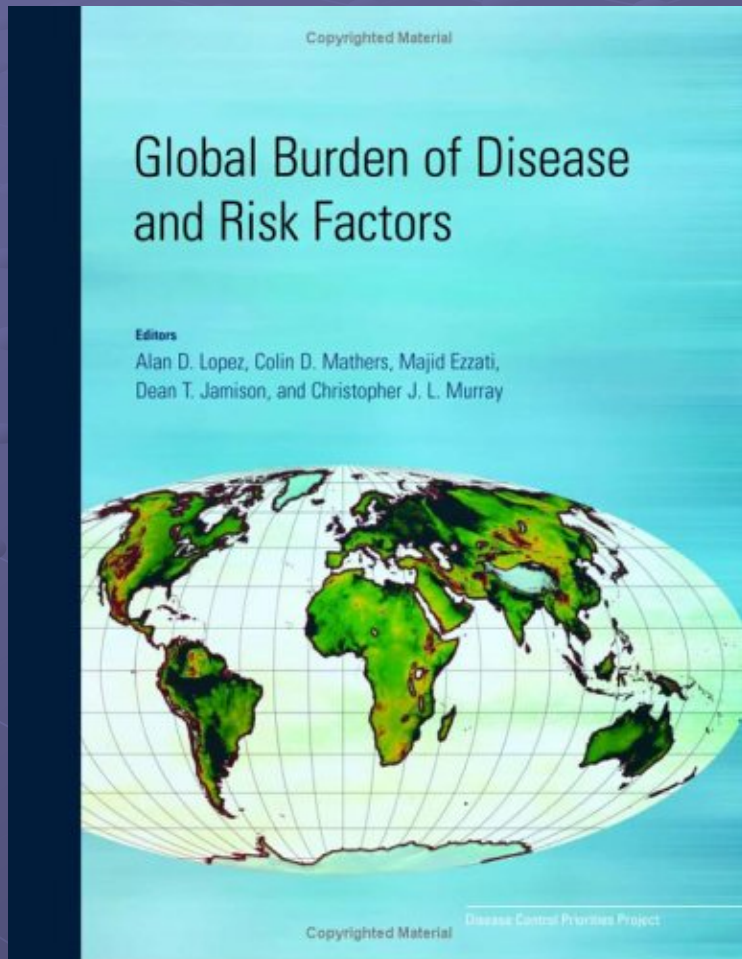
Why is it important to estimate burden of disease?

- Limited resources mean difficult choices
- Increasing pressure to justify choices in expenditure

Decision-makers require scientific evidence to improve global public health

- Raising costs of health services as % GDP

Global Burden of Disease



In 1992 the World Bank commissioned the initial GBD

Needed a single, holistic measure of overall population health

Harvard School of Public Health and World Health Organisation

Global Burden of Disease Study 2010



“The GBD 2010 study developed improved methods to make full use of the increasing amount of health data, particularly from developing countries, and included a comprehensive and consistent revision of disability weights.

BILL & MELINDA
GATES *foundation*



Disability Adjusted Life Year (DALY)

- Takes into account mortality and morbidity
- Measurement of the gap between current health status & ideal situation of living into old age free of disease & disability
- 1 DALY is one lost year of 'healthy' life

Murray CJL, Lopez AD, eds: *The Global Burden of Disease: A comprehensive assessment of mortality and disability from diseases, injuries and risk factors in 1990 and projected to 2020*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press on behalf of the World Health Organization and the World Bank; 1996

Information needed for DALYs

- Life expectancy
- Incidence of diseases by age category
- Sequelae of disease
- Duration of each sequelae
- Mortality rate by age category
- Disability weight

Disability Weighting

Disability Class	Severity Weight	Indicator condition
1	0.00 - 0.02	Vitiligo on face, weight-for height less than 2 SDs
2	0.02 - 0.12	Watery diarrhoea , severe sore throat, severe anaemia
3	0.12 - 0.24	Radius fracture in a stiff cast , infertility, erectile dysfunction, rheumatoid arthritis, angina
4	0.24 - 0.36	Below- the-knee amputation, deafness

Disability Weighting

Disability Class	Severity Weight	Indicator condition
5	0.36 - 0.50	Recto-vaginal fistula, mild mental retardation, Down-syndrome
6	0.50 - 0.70	Unipolar major depression , blindness, paraplegia
7	0.70 - 1.00	Active psychosis, dementia, severe migraine , quadriplegia

DALY Calculation

$$\text{DALY} = \text{Years Life Lost} + \text{Years Lost to Disability}$$

YLL YLD

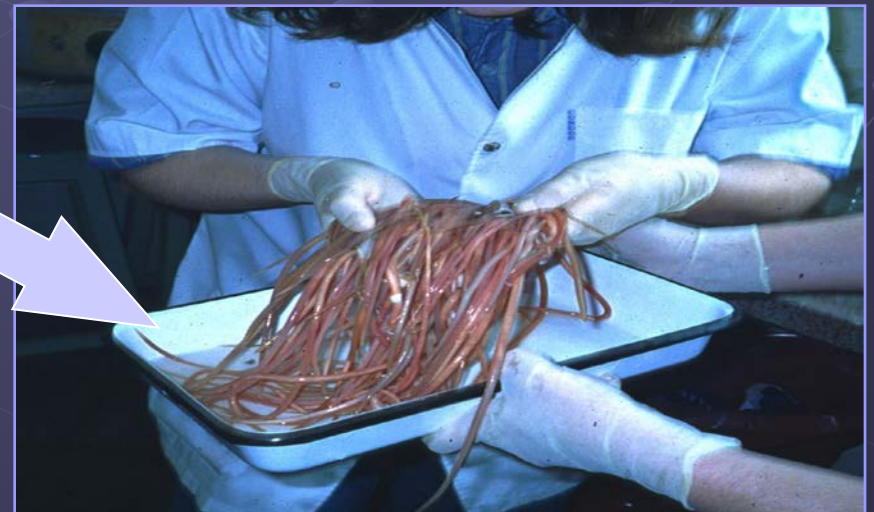
Morbidity versus Mortality



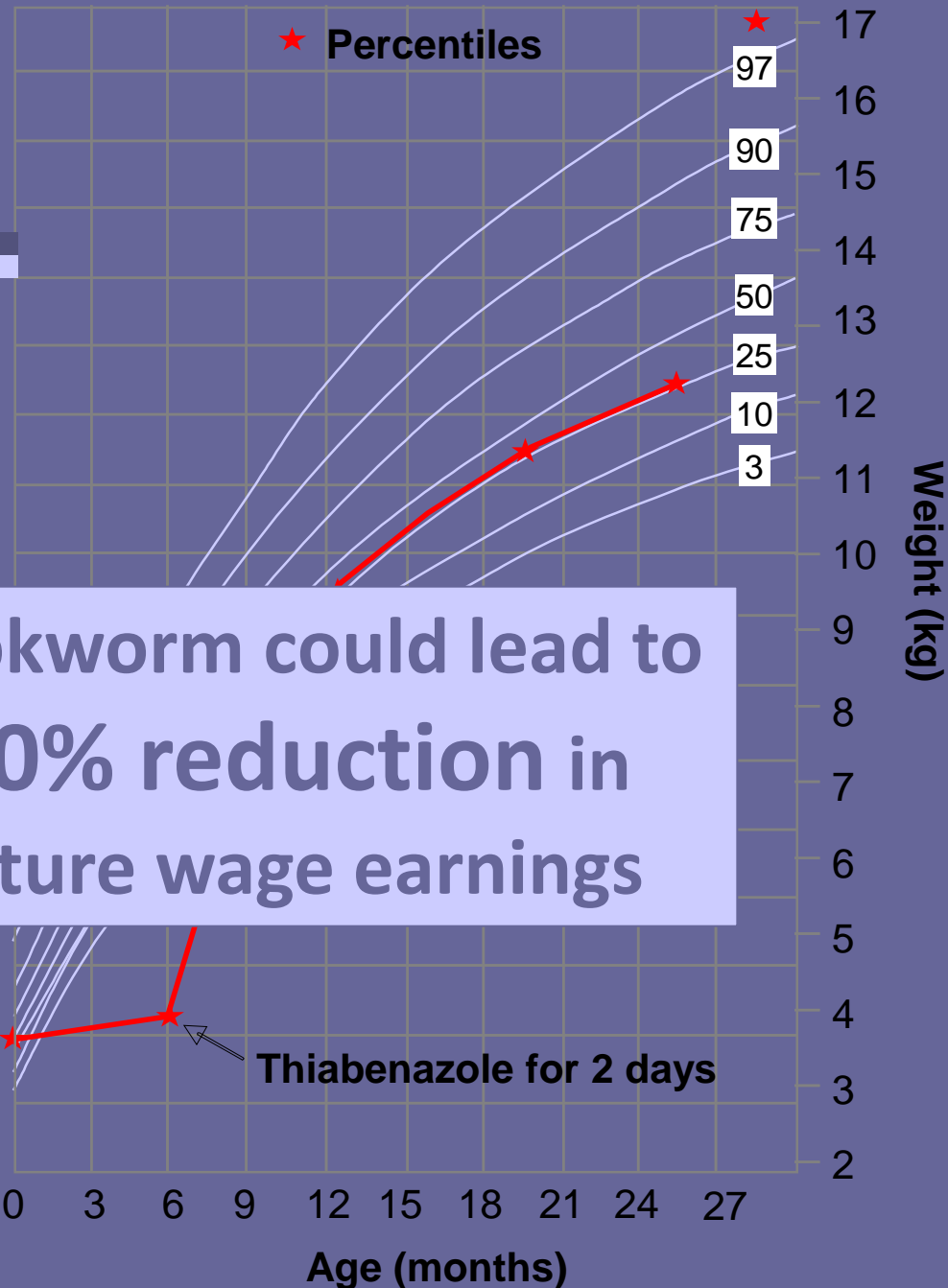
Soil Transmitted Helminth Infections “Worms”

Ascariasis, Tric

Lets treat this girl
with **ONE TABLET** of
albendazole at a cost
of just 2 US cents or
1penny



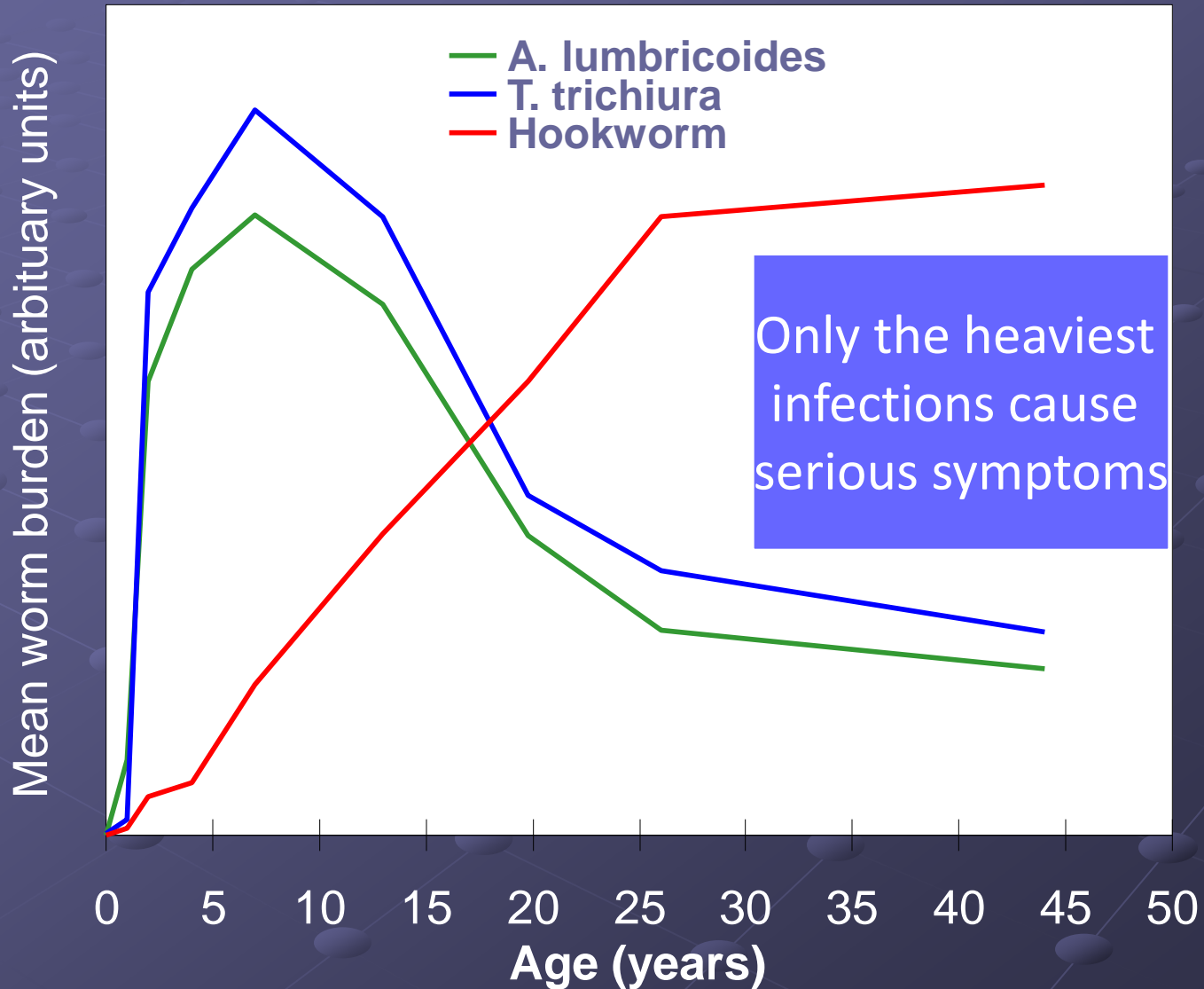
STHs Lead to Stunting and Decreased School Performance in Children



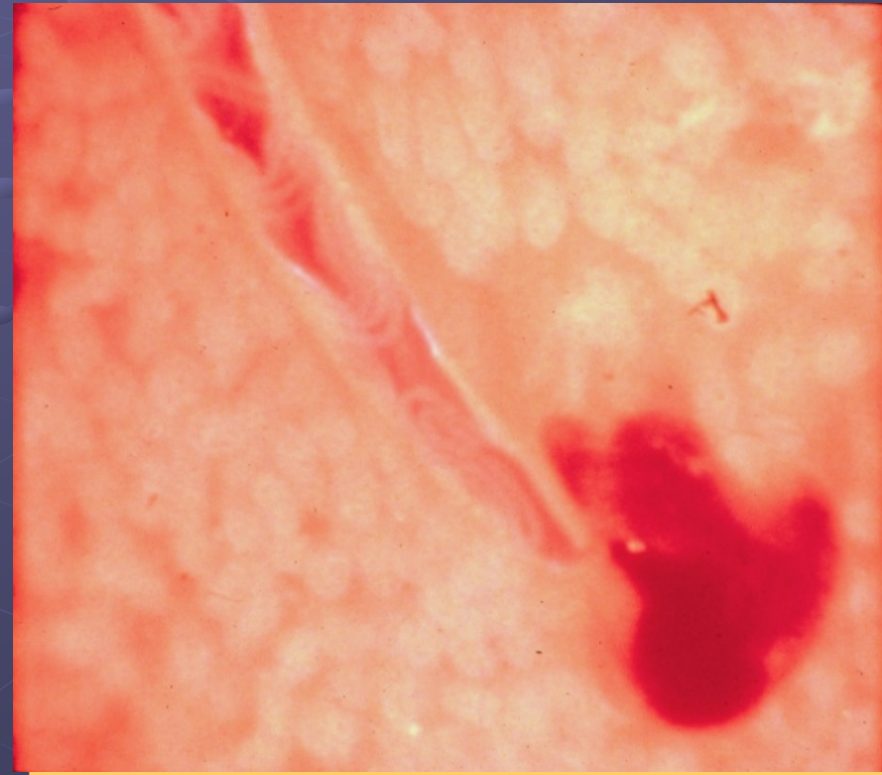
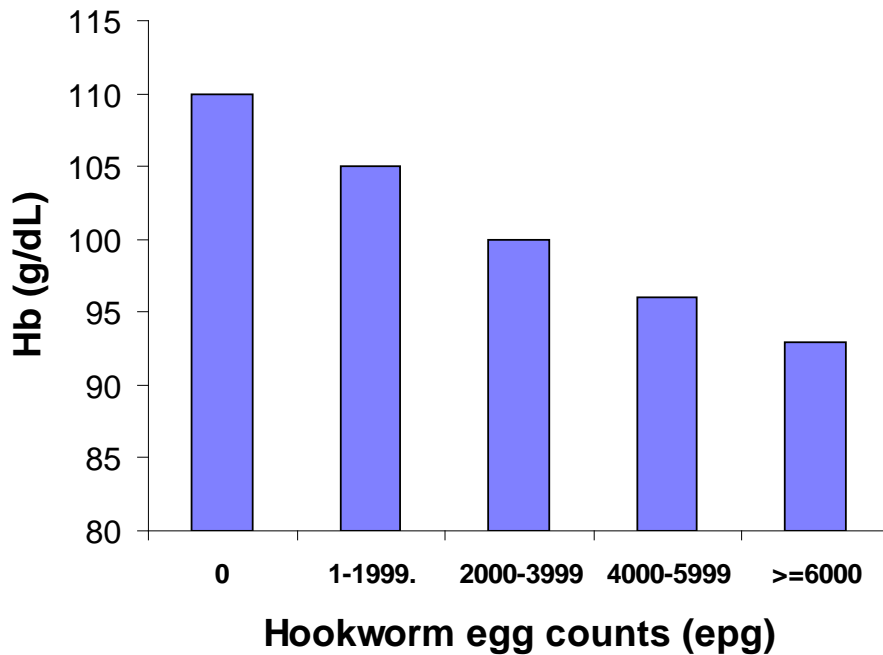
Impact of the STH and schistosomiasis on children after infection

Species	Stunting	Intestinal disorder	Anaemia	Cognition	Long term Sequelae to organs
Ascariasis	Yes	Yes		Yes	
Trichuris	Yes	Yes		Yes	
Hookworm	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Schisto-somiasis	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Age specificity of infection

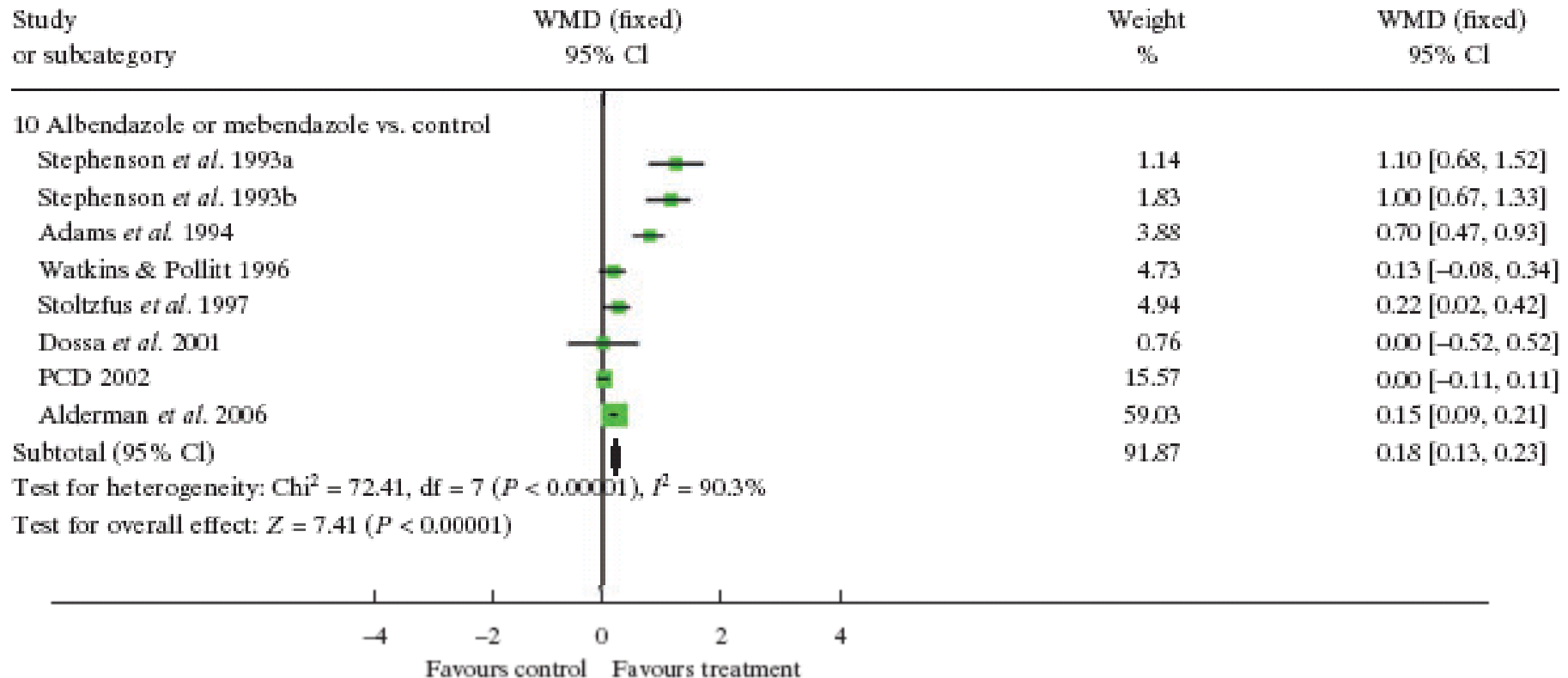


A major consequence of hookworm is blood loss and anaemia



Loss of 30 to 200 μL blood per day for each hookworm

Impact on weight



Hall et al. 2008. *Matern Child Nutr.* 4, 118-236

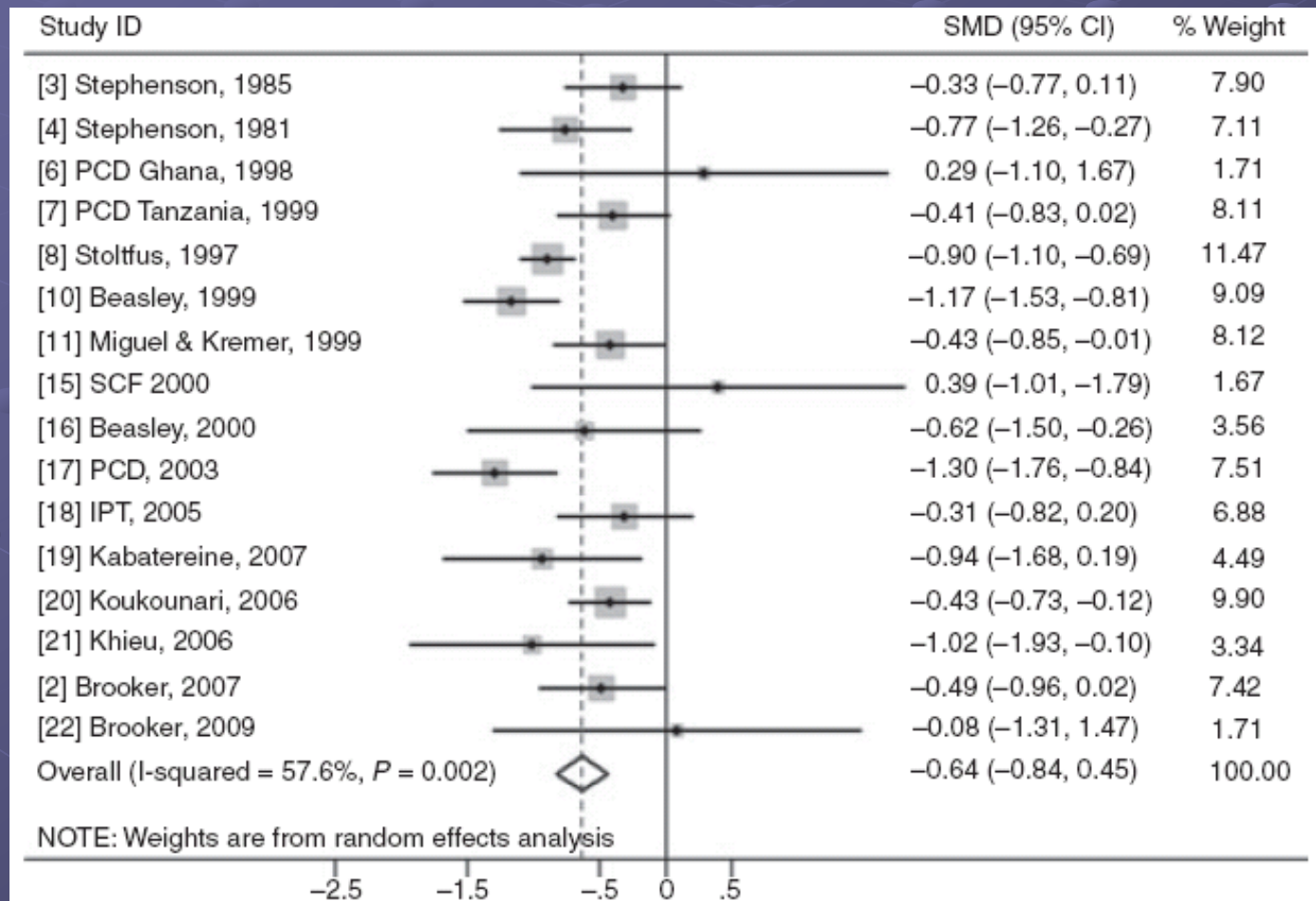
Single round of deworming lead to 0.34 kg weight increase

Taylor-Robinson et al. 2007. Cochrane Sys Review

Impact of hookworm on haemoglobin

Uninfected versus heavy infection –
4000+ eggs/gram

Forest plots of the impact of
hookworm infection on Hb
among school-aged children



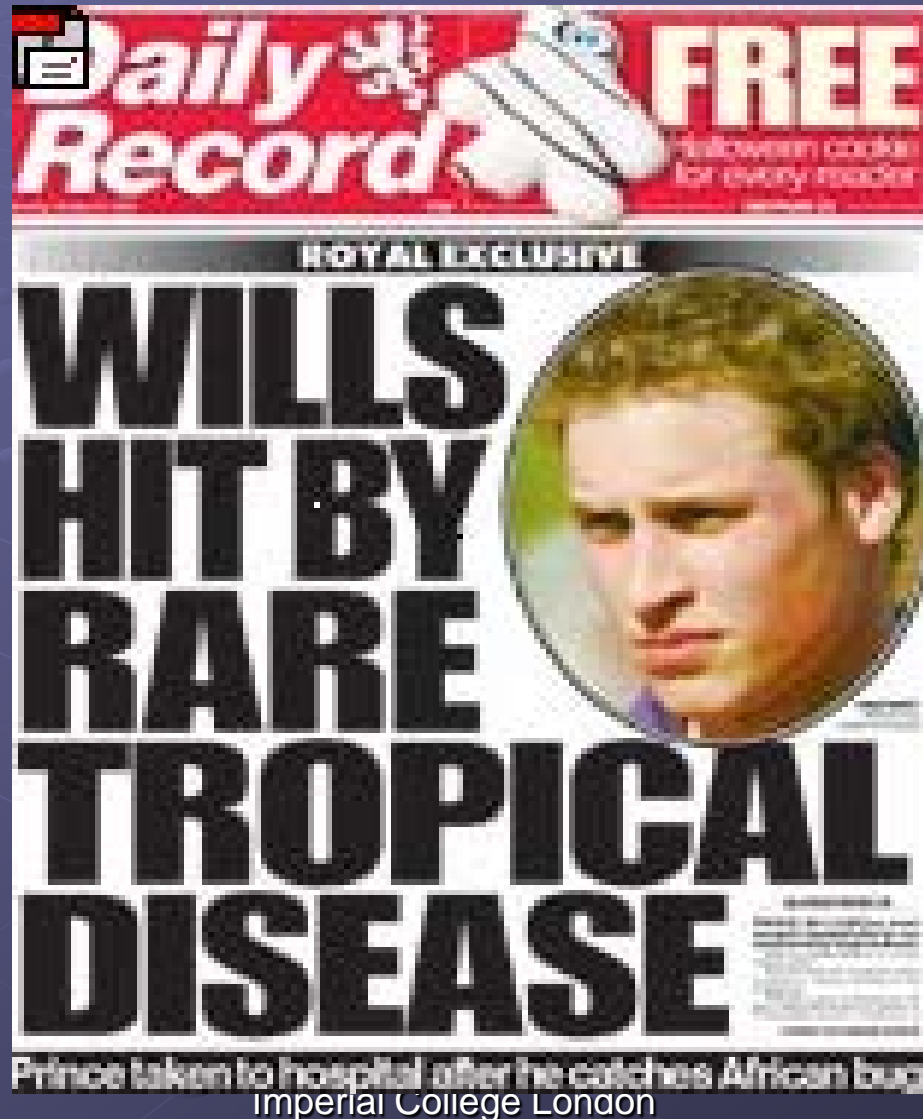
Smith & Brooker
2010. *TMIH* 15,
776-795

Schistosomiasis

- 200 million infected 85% or more in sub saharan Africa
- (could it be more King 2011)
- 120 million suffering with obvious symptoms
- Estimated 280,000 deaths annually

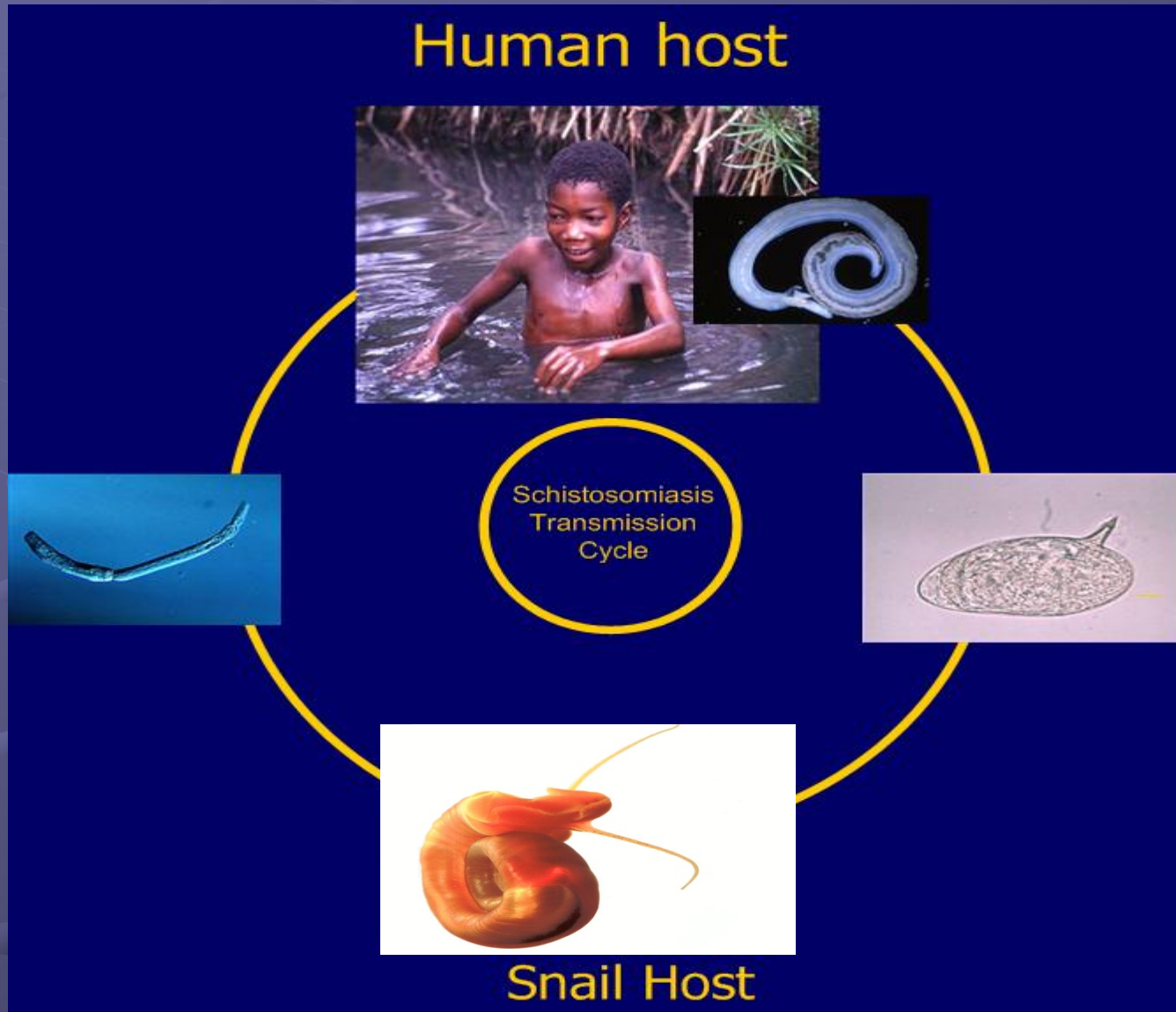


It must be important if royalty are infected



Imperial College London

Transmission

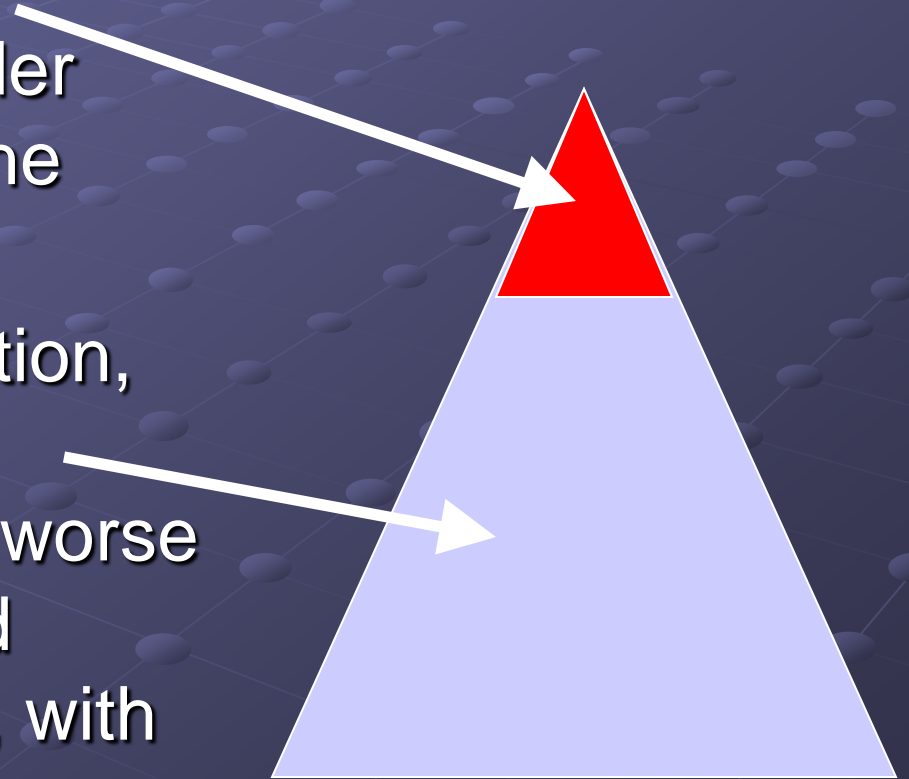


Urine – yes if you have urinary schistosomiasis



The Iceberg

- 'Objective' morbidity (hepatosplenomegaly, hematuria, stunting, bladder cancer) is only the tip of the disease/disability iceberg
- Pain, diarrhea, undernutrition, and anemia are clearly associated with infection, worse with heavier infection, and reversible, at least in part, with specific therapy



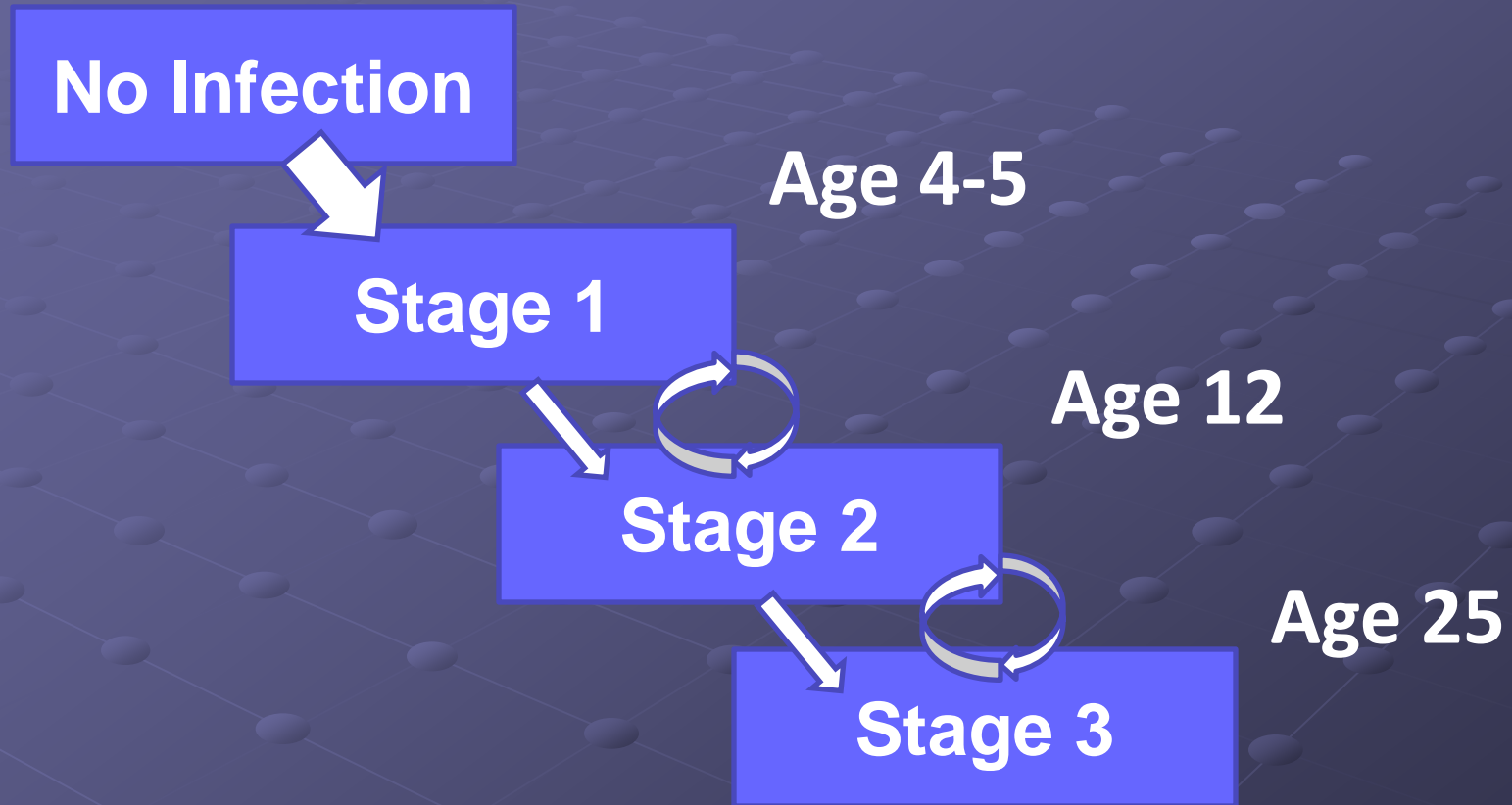
Were they correct with schistosomiasis and other parasitic infections ??

By contrast with the WHO first estimates of 0.5% disability weighting Charles King and colleagues in 2005 suggested that the true weighting could be 2 to 15 times that originally assigned

Schistosomiasis is seen as a “silent pandemic” with under estimated disability and under estimated prevalence

Lets look at the stages of disease

Schistosomiasis the infection progression



Mild Chronic Schistosomiasis- Stage 1

Disability weight = 0.02 to 0.04

N at least 200 million maybe up to 400 million

[The 'average patient' with schisto has these]

Schistosome
infection

Inflammation

Fibrosis

Colonic Polyposis

Bladder Polyposis

Pain

Fatigue

Anemia

Diarrhea or Dysuria

Bloody Stool or
Cystitis and ureteritis

Reduced work
capacity

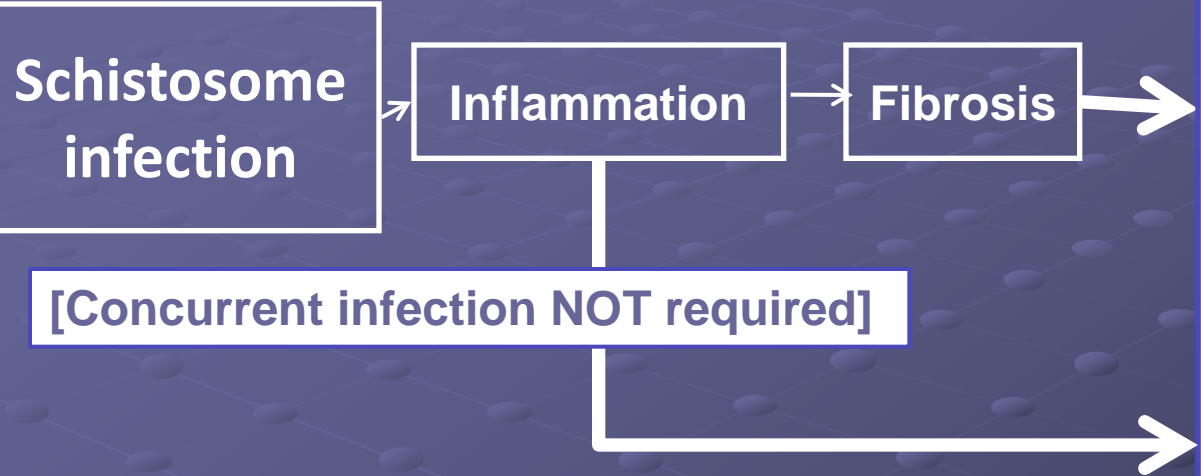
Reduced job/school
performance



Intermediate Chronic Schistosomiasis- Stage 2

Disability weight = 0.10- 0.20

N maybe 30 million



Stage 1 findings plus:

Severe Malnutrition

Severe anemia

Irreversible growth stunting

Impaired cognitive development

Glomerulonephritis

Seizure disorder

Dyspareunia

Infertility

Secondary infection (UTI, STD, HIV)

Vaccine failure

Severe splenic enlargement; hypersplenism



11% severe wasting (BMIZ < -3 or BMI < 16)

Advanced Chronic Schistosomiasis- Stage 3

Disability weight = 0.45

N ~ 2 million

Mortality 1 per 1000 per year

**Schistosome
infection**

Inflammation

Fibrosis



Intermediate Symptoms and/or:

Renal failure

Bladder cancer

Low birth weight; fetal loss

Advanced Liver fibrosis

Portal hypertension

Variceal Bleeding

Ascites

Advanced malnutrition

Depression

Social stigma/divorce

Motor dysfunction/paraparesis

**Pulmonary Inflammation and
hypertension**

Causes of death

(but does schistosomiasis get the credit ?)

- Renal failure
- Bladder cancer
- Hypertension
- Liver fibrosis
- Haematemesis - variceal bleeding

Schistosomiasis Disease Burden

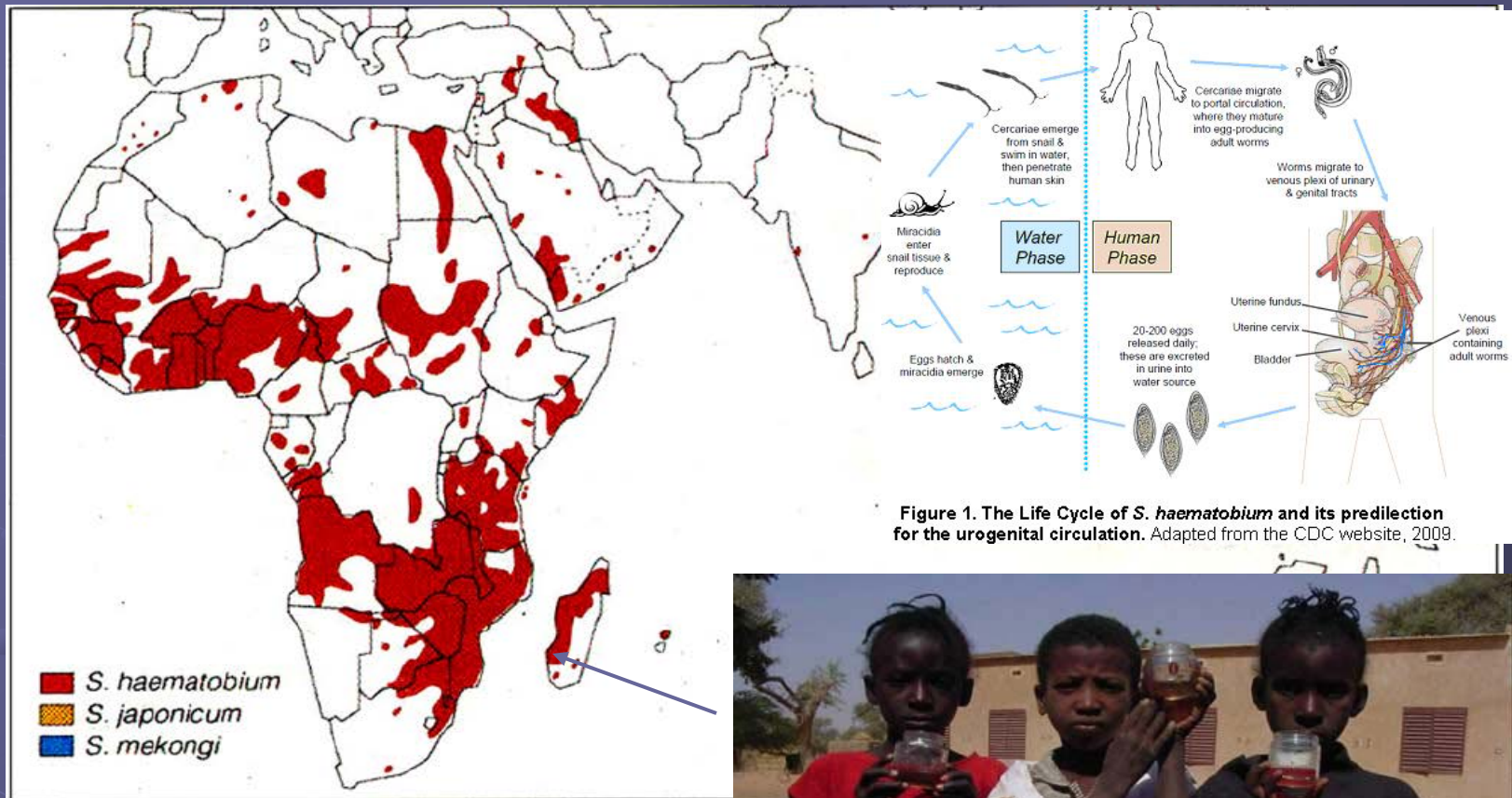
Estimates of cases range from 200 million to up to 440 million cases (C. King 2011)

- More than 90% in Sub-Saharan Africa (Steinmann et al 2006)(out of 200+ million cases)

Aproximately two-thirds of cases caused by *Schistosoma haematobium* (“urinary-genital schistosomiasis”) (Van der Werf et al 2003)

- DALY estimates (2 – 4% Stage I disability) (C. King)
 - 8.9 – 16.1 million standard DALYs*
 - 6.8 – 12.9 million unweighted, but discounted DALYs
 - 25.1 – 36.5 million unweighted, non-discounted DALYs

Distribution of *Schistosoma haematobium*



S. Haematobium and HIV

● Female Urogenital Schistosomiasis...

- Affects young women
- Is associated with HIV infection (Mozambique)
- Is prevalent in the inland villages of Tanzania's Lake Victoria region with 4.0 OR (Downs et al AJTMH 2011)
- Similar findings in Zimbabwe 2.9 OR (Kjetland et al AIDS 2006)

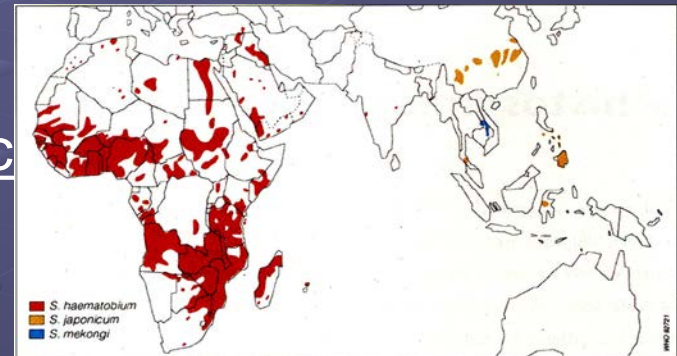
Integrating schistosomiasis control with PEPFAR

Hotez et al PLoS NTDs 2009; Noblick et al PLoS NTDs 2011

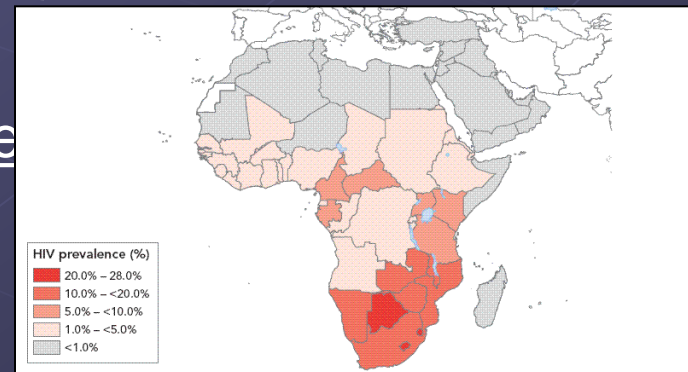
- 10 of the 15 PEPFAR countries in Africa have huge schisto prevalence & populations at risk for schistosomiasis

- Botswana (10% Schisto prevalence)
- Cote d'Ivoire (40% Schisto prevalence)
- Ethiopia (7% Schisto prevalence)
- Kenya (23% Schisto prevalence)
- Mozambique (70% Schisto prevalence)
- Nigeria (23% Schisto prevalence)
- South Africa (11% Schisto prevalence)
- Tanzania (51% Schisto prevalence)
- Uganda (20% Schisto prevalence)
- Zambia (27% Schisto prevalence)

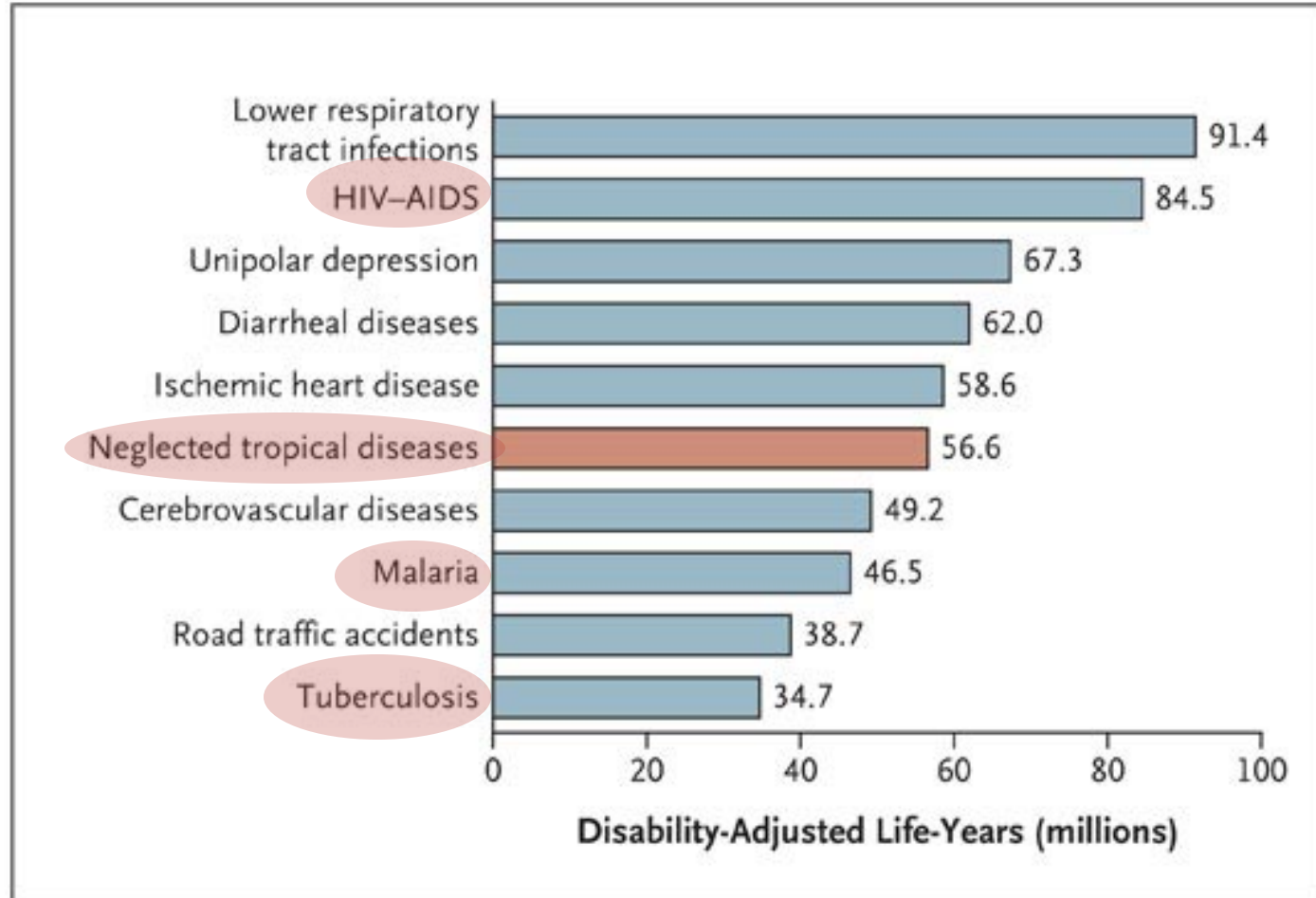
Schisto



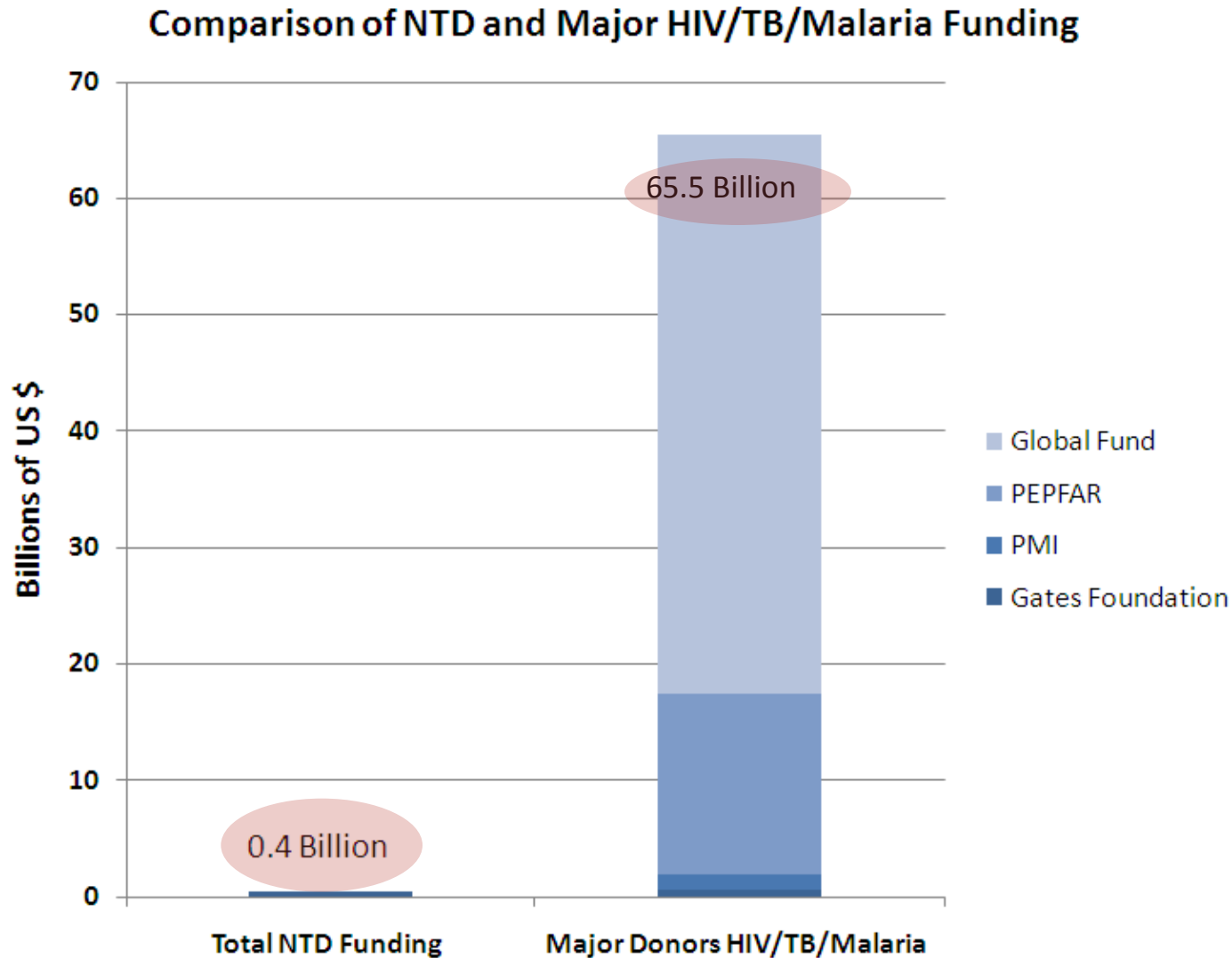
HIV/AIDS



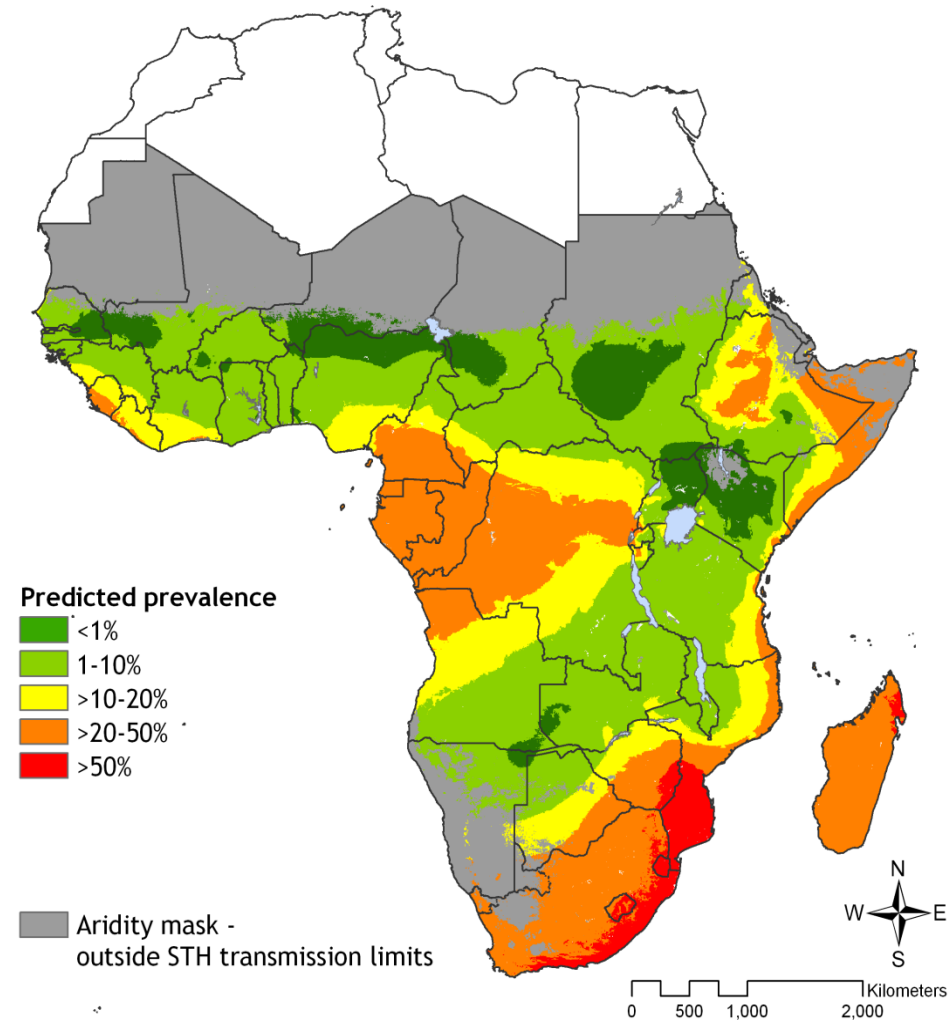
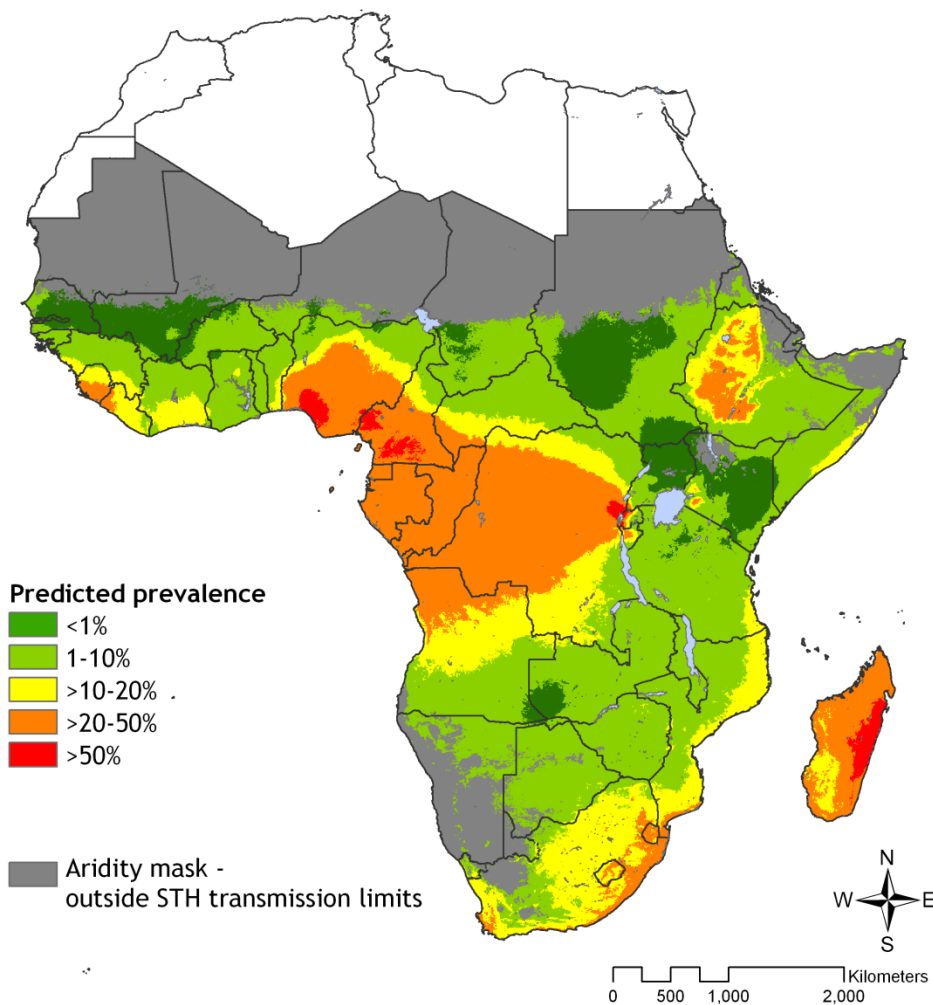
The 10 Leading Causes of Life-Years Lost to Disability and Premature Death in low income countries



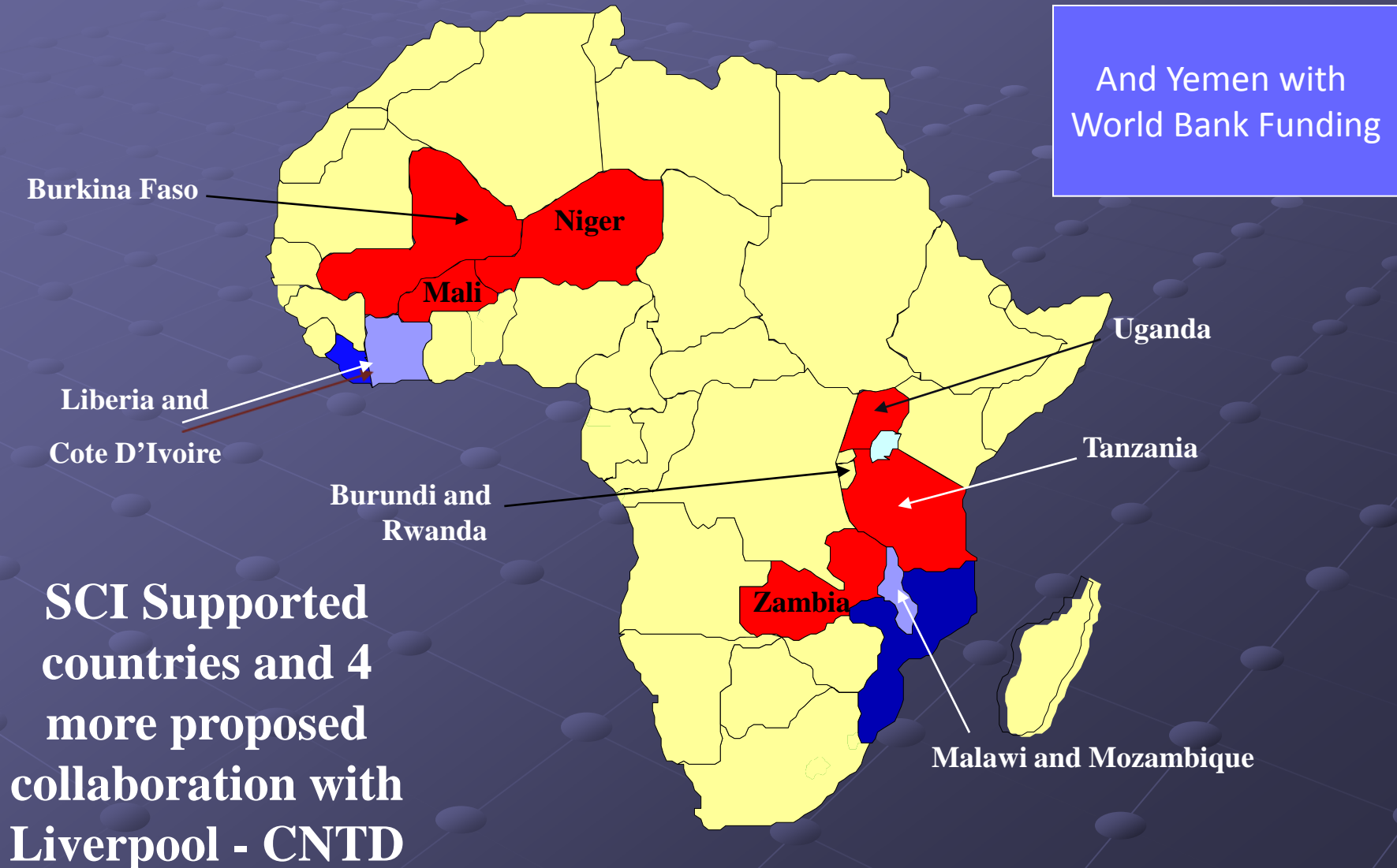
Funding of Disease Control



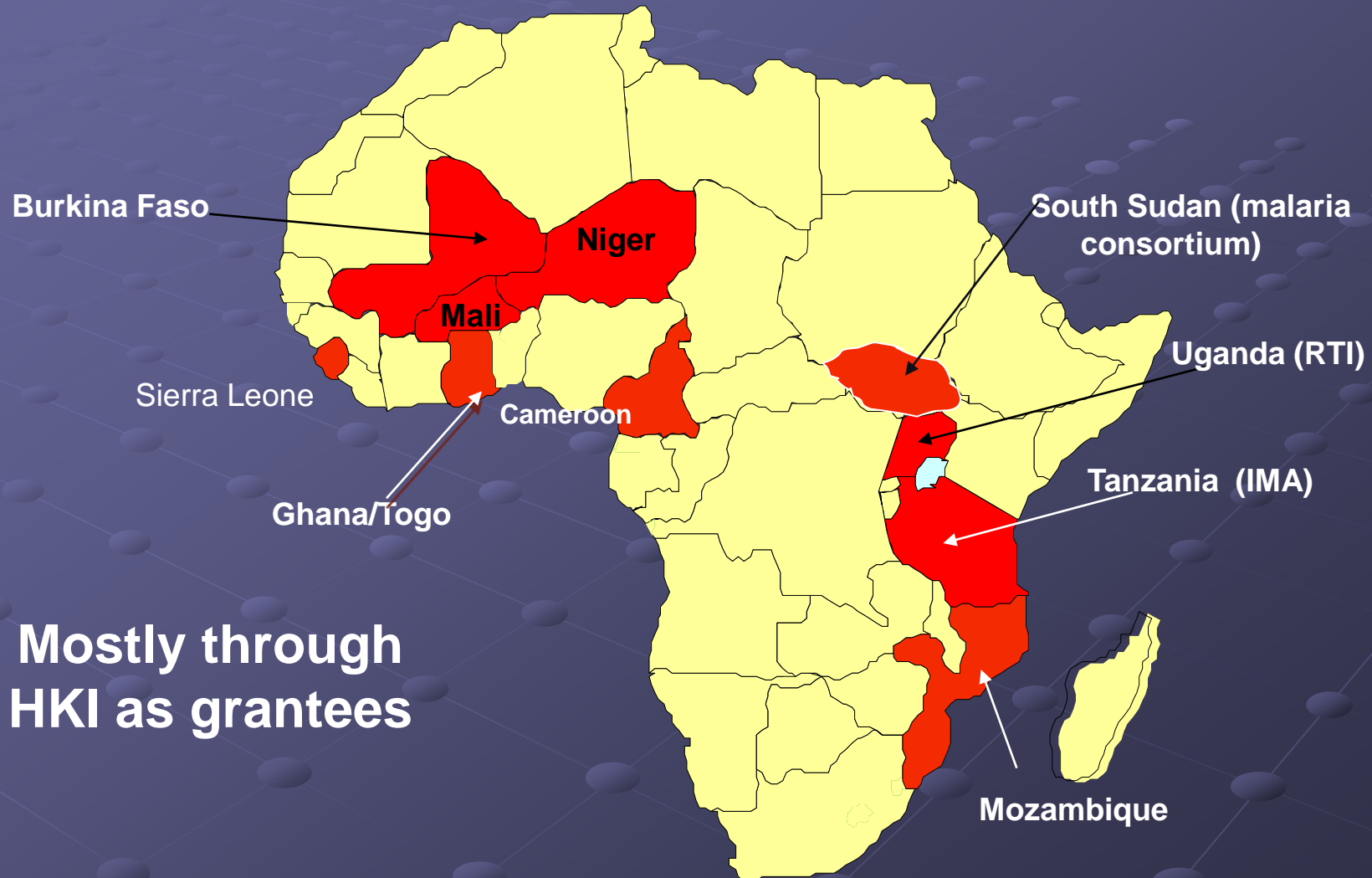
Predictive prevalence of Ascaris and Trichuris



12 Ministries of health and education have implemented control with Gates/Legatum/DFID and SCI assistance



USAID/RTI/FHI are assisting 11 countries



Treating school children is easy

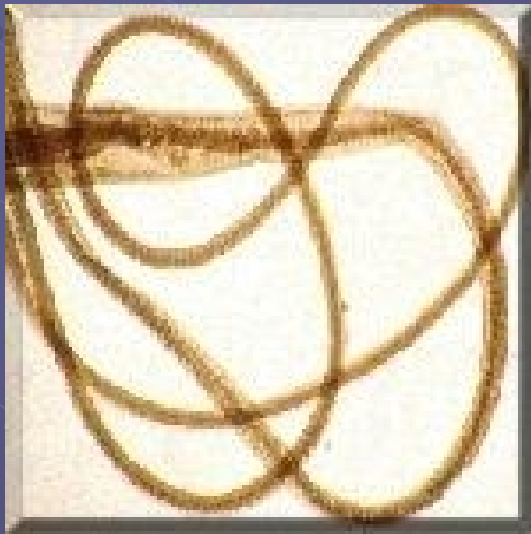
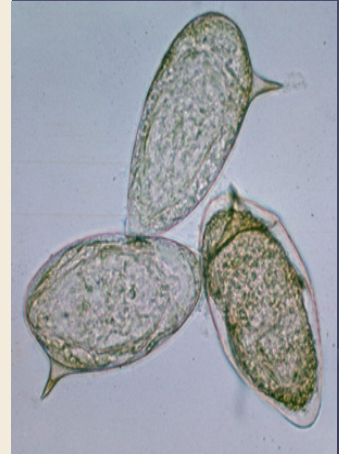
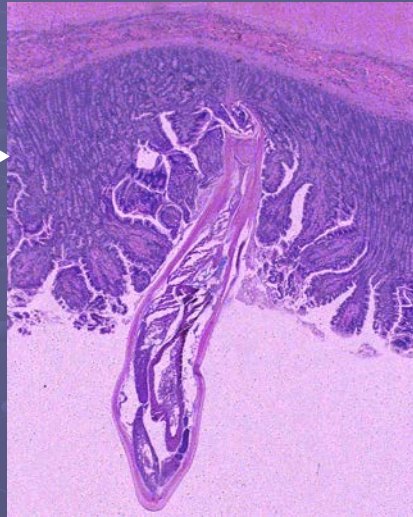


But adults also benefit from treatment through communities



The worms still need attention

60% are untreated



I would like to thank the following for
assistance with this presentation and for
sharing their slides

Professor Charles King

Dr Wendy Harrison

Dr Simon Brooker

Please visit

www.schisto.org

www.givewell.org

Alan Fenwick

a.fenwick@imperial.ac.uk

Thank you