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EDITORIAL MESSAGE**World Health Day: Protect yourself from vector-borne diseases**

10 March 2014 - More than half of the world's population is at risk from vector-borne diseases such as malaria and dengue. Yet, we can protect ourselves and our families by taking simple preventive measures, including vaccination.

Vectors are small organisms that carry serious diseases
40% of the world's population is at risk from dengue. An estimated **1.3 million** new cases of leishmaniasis occur annually

Vectors are organisms that transmit pathogens and parasites from one infected person (or animal) to another, causing serious diseases in human populations. These diseases are commonly found in tropical and sub-tropical regions and places where access to safe drinking-water and sanitation systems is problematic.

Vector-borne diseases account for 17% of the estimated global burden of all infectious diseases. The most deadly vector-borne disease, malaria, caused an estimated 6,27,000 deaths in 2012.

However, the world's fastest growing vector-borne disease is Dengue, Chikungunya, Leishmaniasis, Malaria with a 30-fold increase in disease incidence over the last 50 years.

Being a nurse, we have more responsibility in protecting ourselves and families in the community in preventing vector borne diseases such as malaria and dengue especially and also we have to create awareness among the public about how to use the protecting devices and measures through health education and mass education campaigns.

Let us join together and prevent vector borne diseases!

Editor in Chief