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**Market of drugs for childhood malaria in Southern Mozambique**

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Malaria is one of the leading death causes in Sub-Saharan Africa. Artemisinin-combination therapies (ACTs) are used as first-line drugs for treatment but their market is far from competitive. Important supply issues include limited availability and low quality, while on the demand side market failures include the lack of information and low access to the treatment.

In order to estimate the demand for ACTs among children with malaria in rural Mozambique, a survey was carried out among caregivers in 2012. Data collected through the survey were merged with demographic surveillance data and with the hospital passive case detection systems in place in the area. A Negative Binomial (NB) regression was used to identify the determinants of the demand for ACTs.

Respondents stated higher willingness-to-pay (WTP) than expected, but revealed lower ability-to-pay (ATP), which was defined as the demand. Our findings showed that households’ ATP was 0.94 USD on average for the treatment of an uncomplicated malaria episode. This implied an average gap of 0.46 USD between international ACTs prices and local demand, rising to 1.04 USD when considering the average local private price. Results showed ATP was negatively associated with the number of malaria episodes the child had previously suffered during the same malaria season, wealth and geographical area. WTP, age and household head occupation were also positively correlated with ATP. Finally, this work also revealed an unequal distribution of welfare between suppliers and consumers in the local market.