A randomised controlled trial to assess the LifeStraw® Family household gravity filter

Submission date	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	Prospectively registered		
20/05/2008		☐ Protocol		
Registration date	Overall study status Completed	Statistical analysis plan		
12/06/2008		[X] Results		
Last Edited	Condition category	Individual participant data		
23/02/2011	Infections and Infestations			

Plain English summary of protocol

Not provided at time of registration

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number N/A

Study information

Scientific Title

Study objectives

The objectives of the study are:

- 1. To assess the effectiveness of the LifeStraw® Family household filter in preventing diarrhoeal diseases
- 2. To determine the effectiveness of the LifeStraw® household filter in reducing the bacterial load of drinking water
- 3. To evaluate the extent to which it is used correctly and consistently by, and is acceptable to, the target population
- 4. We will also measure longevity of the filter as it is used in a field setting

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Ethics approval received from:

- 1. The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) Ethics Board on the 15th November 2007 (ref: 5206)
- 2. Ecole de sante publique, Democratic Republic of Congo on the 22nd January 2008 (ref: ESP/CE /004/2008)

Study design

Two-armed randomised placebo-controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Prevention

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Diarrhoea

Interventions

A two-arm randomised placebo-controlled trial will be conducted over a 12-month period. The trial will include two groups of households: half of the participating households will receive the LifeStraw® filter and the other half will receive a filter which looks like the LifeStraw® filter but which does not remove pathogens from the water.

The placebo has the same outside components as the real filter but the filtering membranes inside the cartridge have been replaced by some extra piping to imitate the weight of the real cartridge and the flow coming out of it.

Within one month of distributing the filters, field investigators will visit each household once a month (i.e. 12 visits per household during the overall follow-up period) to conduct a health survey. They will record for each household member, whether she/he had experienced any illness in the past 7 days, prompting a list of symptoms - in which diarrhoea is included - if no answer was spontaneously given.

Intervention Type

Other

Phase

Not Specified

Primary outcome(s)

Diarrhoea longitudinal prevalence, measured as weekly period prevalence.

Key secondary outcome(s))

- 1. Use of device, measured every month
- 2. Bacterial load reduction in drinking water, measured every month
- 3. Acceptability, measured once at the end of the study

Completion date

30/06/2009

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

Households including members of all ages living in the study communities.

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Other

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

Households and individuals who treat their water in a way that is deemed effective to prevent diarrhoea (e.g. boiling, filtration with a state of the art filter, regular use of bleach).

Date of first enrolment

01/06/2008

Date of final enrolment

30/06/2009

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Congo, Democratic Republic

Study participating centre DCVBU London United Kingdom

Sponsor information

Organisation

WC1E 7HT

Vestergaard Frandsen (Switzerland)

ROR

https://ror.org/02fj56008

Funder(s)

Funder type

Industry

Funder Name

Vestergaard Frandsen (Switzerland)

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created Date adde	d Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article	results	10/09/2010	Yes	No
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025 11/11/202	5 No	Yes