In pregnancy, infections are a key cause of anemia and can be prevented by sleeping under a bednet and taking intermittent preventive treatment (IPTp) for malaria and deworming pills.

In 2012, 41% of pregnant women in Guinea consumed 90 or more IFA tablets.

Not enough women are taking IPTp to prevent malaria during pregnancy (18%, 2012).

21% of infants in Guinea are exclusively breastfed during the first six months after birth (2012).

In 2012, 22% of children 6-23 months of age consumed foods rich in iron*.

Nearly one out of four (23%) married adolescent girls expressed an unmet need for family planning (2012).

*A includes meat (including organ meat), fish, poultry, and eggs.

A multisectoral approach to prevent anemia will save lives and improve the wellbeing of mothers, infants, and children.
Anemia has substantial negative effects on the health and economic wellbeing of nations and communities. Children with anemia experience irrevocable cognitive and developmental delays and exhibit decreased worker productivity as adults. Globally, maternal anemia increases the risk of pre-term delivery and low birth weight, and iron-deficiency anemia underlies 115,000 maternal deaths and 591,000 perinatal deaths each year.

**Prevalence of anemia among children 6-59 months and women 15-49 years, by region**

Source: Guinea DHS, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Women (%)</th>
<th>Children (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faranah</td>
<td>23.2</td>
<td>24.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kankan</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>44.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boké</td>
<td>46.7</td>
<td>44.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kindia</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N’Zérékoré</td>
<td>77.4%</td>
<td>77.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Prevalence</td>
<td>77.4%</td>
<td>77.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mamou</td>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>15.1 2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conakry</td>
<td>35.5</td>
<td>12.7 0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labé</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The DHS hemoglobin levels used to diagnose anemia in children 6-59 months in grams/dL are: Mild 10.0-10.9; Moderate 7.0-9.9; Severe <7.0; Any <11.0.

The DHS hemoglobin levels used to diagnose anemia in non-pregnant women 15-49 years in grams/dL are: Mild 10.0-11.9; Moderate 7.0-9.9; Severe <7.0; Any <12.0.

**Status of Policies or Strategies to Support Reductions in Anemia**

- IFA for pregnant women
- IFA for women of reproductive age
- IFA for adolescent girls
- Iron and/or folic acid fortification legislation
- Delayed cord clamping
- Dietary diversity for complementary feeding
- Micronutrient powders for children
- Long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) for household use
- Indoor residual spraying
- National policy on sanitation
- IPTp for pregnant women
- Malaria diagnosis and treatment
- Deworming for children
- Deworming for pregnant women
- Breastfeeding

Anemia is a Preventable Condition—Simple Interventions Can Have a Huge Impact

Increase iron uptake and stores

IFA supplementation among pregnant women increased from 2005 to 2012

Received any IFA during pregnancy

- Took <60
- Took 60-89
- Took 90+

0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

2005 2012

Contraception use among married women has dropped since 2005


take 60-89

take 90+

0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

1999 2005 2012

Few children 6-23 months old were fed according to 3 key Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices in 2012

Breast milk, milk, or milk products

- 1

4+ food groups

- 2

Minimum meal frequency

- 3

All 3 IYCF practices

0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

*Continued breastfeeding, or feeding of milk/milk products to non-breastfed children
*Feeding children solid foods, semi-solid foods, and milk products from the minimum number of food groups
*Feeding children solid foods, semi-solid foods, and milk products the minimum number of times

Reduce iron losses and infection

Insecticide-treated mosquito net (ITN) use increased dramatically from 2005 to 2012*

Not enough children and women received deworming medication in 2012*

Pregnant women 15-49 years

Children 6-59 months

0% 5% 10% 15% 20% 25% 30% 35%

2005 2012

*Percentage who slept under an ITN the night before the survey

Exclusive breastfeeding of children <6 months has dropped since 2005

0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

1999 2005 2012

The percentage of households with an improved latrine/toilet has increased dramatically since 1999 but remains low*

0% 5% 10% 15% 20% 25% 30% 35%

1999 2005 2012

*Definition of ‘improved latrine/toilet’ has changed slightly across years. See Demographic and Health Surveys

All data is from Guinea Demographic and Health Surveys unless otherwise noted.
Multiple Sectors Play a Role in Anemia Prevention and Treatment

Stunting and anemia share similar risk factors and are responsive to many of the same interventions

Agriculture
- Increase income and reduce poverty
- Production of biofortified and iron-rich crops
- Small livestock/poultry
- Dietary diversity

Health
- Iron supplementation
- Deworming
- Breastfeeding and complimentary feeding
- Family planning
- Malaria prevention and treatment
- Delayed cord clamping

Water and Sanitation
- Improved latrines
- Handwashing
- Access to clean water
- Livestock management
- Infectious disease prevention

Education
- Female literacy
- Health education
- Hygiene education
- Family planning education
- Nutrition education

Data Sources:

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