

RHC Case Study 3 Group Questions

Further Developments from the Ratta Refugee Camps

Instructions

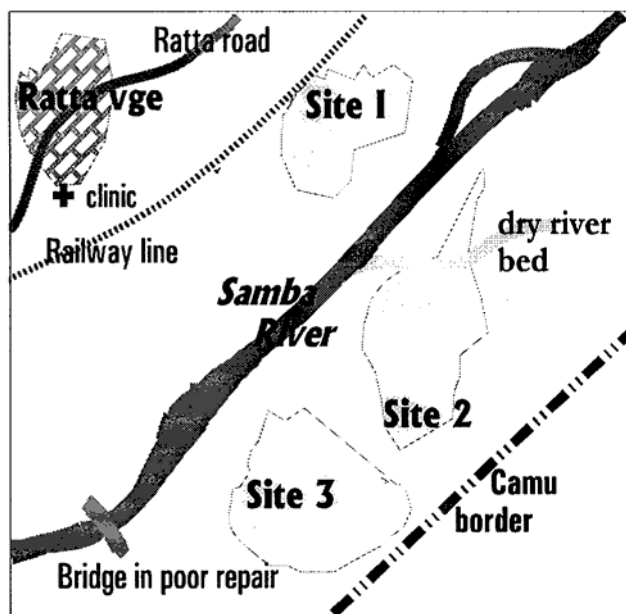
1. Read the RHC Case Study 3 text file.
2. Upon completion of the case study, fill out the Peer Evaluation Form.
3. Review the questions below, which are organized by topic, and prepare a PowerPoint presentation addressing the following questions and topics.

Nutritional Assessment

Although initial nutritional assessment can be done at the time of registration, because of a shortage of trained personnel, it had been elected to postpone this assessment for a few weeks until other priority activities had been attended. It is now time to undertake this evaluation. URC, your employers, would like you to establish a standardized method that can be used in this and subsequent nutritional surveys which will be carried out to monitor nutritional status, if you feel this is appropriate. The Provincial Medical Officer for Koval's Southern Province (which includes Ratta) has offered to contribute eight medical assistants, health inspectors, and nurses to assist you in carrying out this assessment. Some of these have had experience measuring height-for-weight as well as doing Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) measurements in children.

For your presentation to the class, please describe the various sampling methods which might be suitable. From these possibilities, indicate the one you have selected and outline to the class how you would carry it out. After the camp becomes established and the maintenance phase is reached, do you think one of the other methods would be more suitable? Please also indicate the method of nutritional measurement you would use for children.

Assuming the findings from children under age five in the table below are actually what you will find in your survey, please also outline your assessment of the food and nutritional status of the Sarvo refugees. Indicate the seriousness of the situation and state your recommendations for action.



Malnutrition	Γ		E		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Moderate -2.0z to -3.0z (80%–70% std)	15	13	17	18	32	15.2
Severe 3.0 or worse, or with odema (<70% std)	7	6	7	7.4	14	6.7
Global	22	19.1	24	25.2	46	21.9
Total number	115		95		210	

Table 1. Malnutrition findings

Supplementary and Therapeutic Feeding

- ◆ The experts carrying out the nutritional survey set about their task with a speed and diligence that amazed even veteran refugee workers. Their results are presented at the end of Group's A assignment in Table 1. You have been asked by URC headquarters to consider whether supplementary and therapeutic feeding programs will be required for this camp.
- ◆ Assuming that the headquarters agrees to commit the resources and personnel need to run this program, please outline for the class the indications for each of these types of programs. Also estimate the potential number of beneficiaries under the age of five and indicate what other groups might be included in the supplemental feeding program. Indicate the different approaches to supplementing the general rations and state when it is appropriate to discontinue these programs.
- ◆ Since these programs require considerable resources, both in the form of supplies and also in the form of personnel, please calculate these based on the present population. Explain what might be needed if the population were to double and indicate where you would situate services in the camp as it now stands.

Food Interventions and Preventing Micronutrient Deficiencies

- ◆ You have been appointed as food and nutrition coordinator for URC. Your task is to determine what type of feeding activities are to be established, the quality of foods to be provided (Kcal, protein, etc.), and to monitor the food basket and survey of food actually reaching the household level. For the purpose of the group work, you may make any assumptions that you feel are appropriate.
- ◆ Three years ago in another country, URC received bad publicity (in the *MMWR* and elsewhere) when an outbreak of pellagra occurred in a refugee population for which it was responsible for feeding. The head office is anxious that pellagra or other micronutrient deficiencies do not occur.
- ◆ For your class presentation, please outline how you will be carrying out these tasks in the two sections above. On the micronutrient aspect, please outline for the class the types of micronutrient deficiencies which have occurred (listing the instance where they occurred if you wish), and how these can be prevented by correctly managing the dietary program.

- ◆ At the beginning, your group started food basket monitoring. Six weeks have now gone by, and you have been asked by the UNHCR country representative to assess the data you have collected so far, shown in Table 2 on the next page. What do you make of this information and what do you think it might mean?

Week	Food Basket Mean Kcal	Standard Deviation
1	1,650	320
3	1,690	534
5	1,810	1,093

Table 2. Food basket monitoring results

- ◆ Common problems with food are theft, diversion, hoarding, sale, and rapid consumption. How would you detect and deal with these problems?

Distribution of Food Items

- ◆ Given the current population, please estimate the amount of maize, beans, and oil that is necessary to sustain them at 1,800 Kcal and 2,200 Kcal for the next two months. Please consider potential losses in transit.
- ◆ For the class, please outline the logistical system that you will put in place to deliver food to the Ratta camps on an emergency basis and what you will do for the maintenance phase. Indicate the transport methods, warehouse arrangements, security, and the record keeping which will be required. Also consider the numbers of people who will be required to operate this system.
- ◆ Present to the class the methods you will use for distribution for food to the refugees, including design of the distribution facility.
- ◆ Firewood for cooking is noted to be a major problem. The Ministry of Forestry has indicated it is willing to sell URC, at a concessionary rate, eucalyptus trees from its extensive plantations 25km away. Please make estimates of the amount of wood required each week to provide 45% of the cooking fuel required for the refugees, as well as the number of vehicles required to transport it from the forests to the camps.