

BOOKLET “INSECTS OF MEDICAL INTEREST”: A SCIENTIFIC DISSEMINATION TOOL

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Insects of medical interest include the group of vectors and invertebrates that can transmit pathogens that cause diseases in humans and animals. The objective of this work was to produce a booklet with accessible information about the habits of insect vectors. The booklet “Insects of medical interest” is one of the products of the One Health Project for the “Igarapés” of Porto Velho – SULgPVH and was aimed at residents near riparian vegetation areas and public schools located in the neighborhoods where the project was developed. To produce the booklet, we included original illustrations and language that were easy for the local population to understand. The booklet has seven distinct sections, classified by the common and scientific name of each insect (Dengue mosquito - *Aedes aegypti*; Common mosquito - *Culex quinquefasciatus*; Nail mosquito - *Anopheles darlingi*; Straw mosquito - *Psychodopygus davis* and *Nyssomyia antunesi*; Meruim - *Culicoides paraensis*; Pium - *Simulium argentiscutum* and *Simulium pertinax*; Barber - *Rhodnius robustus* and *Panstrongylus geniculatus*). For each vector, the participation in disease transmission cycles, preferred breeding and blood-feeding habits and main prevention measures were highlighted. To date, 266 booklets have been distributed to residents of homes adjacent to the riparian vegetation and 576 booklets for schools, covering grades from the 3rd year of elementary school to the 1st year of high school. The booklet was also made available in digital format (<https://www.rondonia.fiocruz.br/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/CARTILHA-DIGITAL.pdf>) via QR code and has been distributed at Fiocruz Rondônia events. Scientific dissemination and popularization of science are initiatives that help prevent and control insect vectors of diseases and have an important social impact, increasing community involvement with science.

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