

# Reducing severe malaria deaths in Zambia



Access to Rectal Artesunate at Community Level Reduced Severe Malaria Deaths Among Children Under 6



## Severe Malaria Case Fatality Rate

### 2 Demonstration Districts

From 3.1% to 0.5%

**84%** DECREASE

### 8 Scale-up Districts

From 6.2% to 0.6%

**90%** DECREASE

Rural intervention communities accessed quality assured rectal artesunate (RAS) from trained community health workers and follow-on treatment for severe malaria from the health facility.

Based on formal data from the health management information system, reported deaths from severe malaria reduced significantly.

### Districts

**10**

### Communities

**1,272**

### Population Coverage

**900,000**

### Health Facilities

**217**

Community-managed emergency transport systems supported timely referral

RAS recipients transferred to health facility by bicycle ambulances in demonstration districts **34%**



Of **11,486** children identified with severe malaria

**96.2%**

Received rapid diagnostic test for malaria

**96.6%**

Administered RAS

...and of **11,095** RAS recipients

**99.7%**

Referred to health facility

**91.4%**

Followed up at least once after discharge

**"This integrated, community-based programme is an important best practice example. Learnings from the experience in Zambia are being applied in other countries."**

Hans Rietveld, Director, Access and Product Management, Medicines for Malaria Venture

