

Needs Assessment 2019 in the Department of Loreto in Perú



Background

- **Selva in Action (SIA):** is a volunteer medical, dental, educational, and empowerment program that provides services to villagers living along the Rio Momón in the Amazon jungle, a few hours from the city of Iquitos, Perú.
- **Loreto department:** one of Peru's largest northernmost departments and Amazonian regions with a vast area of tall and flooded forests, the terrain is covered with dense vegetation and has numerous rivers that are part of the Amazonian Hydrographical System. Loreto is also a remote department that can be only be accessed by traveling via river or plane.
- **Health post:** This is a primary preventative clinic where medical check-ups are done by the "health promoters", sometimes assisted by a registered nurse. It usually has a delivery room, a room for hospital treatment, a doctor's office, a dentist's office, a pharmacy with basic medications, a storage room, and bathrooms.

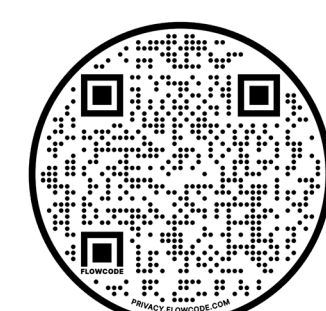
Aims

The aims of this project were to develop a needs assessment from a 2019 survey conducted by UIC in collaboration with the SIA mission in the Peruvian Amazon:

- Identify three main issues.
- Create main recommendations.

Methods

The needs assessment explores the community patients live in, health post they go, the medical problem they have, and the educational topic they want. The data included a total of 154 participants. The data was cleaned using Excel, then analyzed and presented using Python, which allowed for the creation of graphs to illustrate the main issues identified by the study.



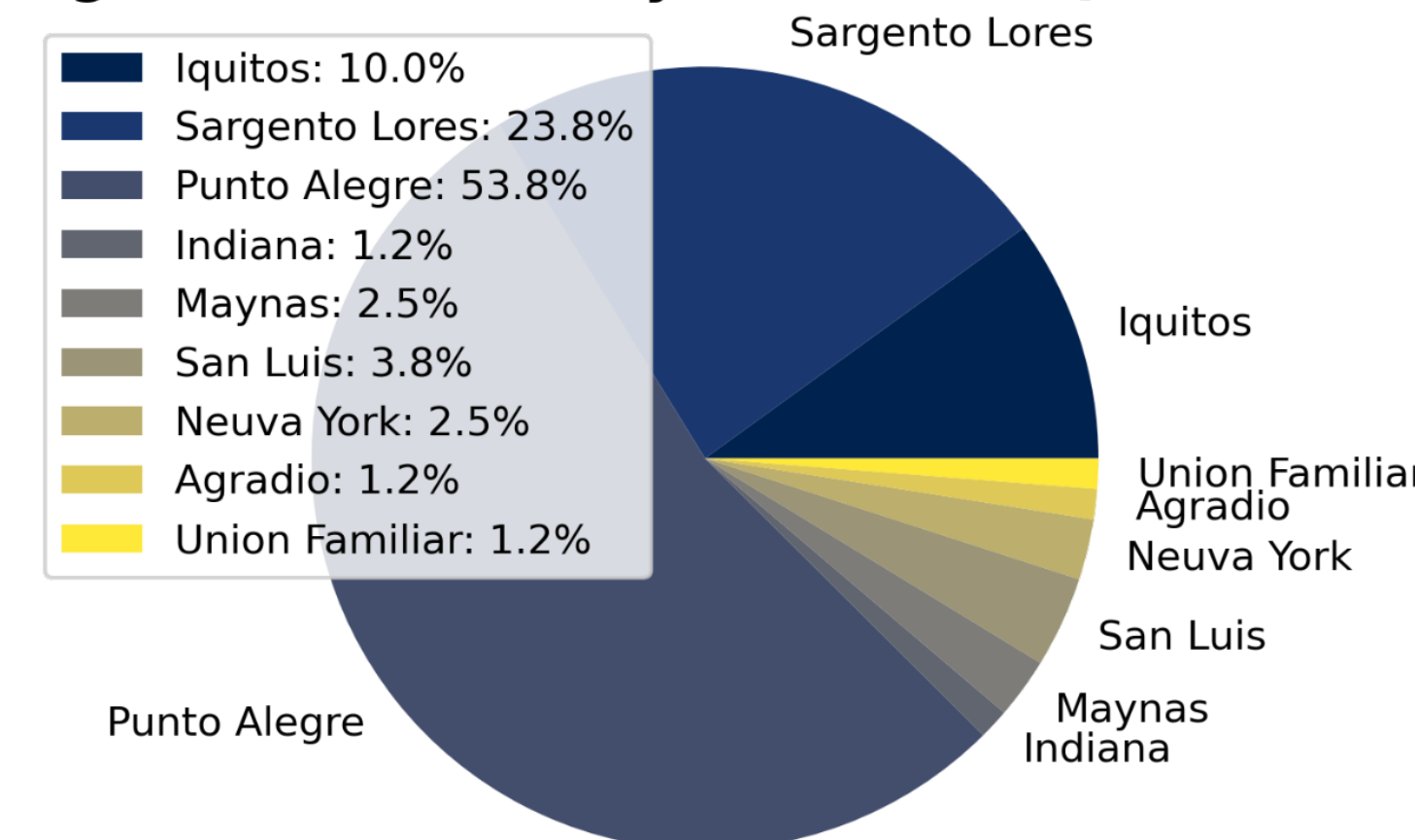
SIA Medical Mission QI Patient Survey.

Community Locations

Figure 1. The Department of Loreto

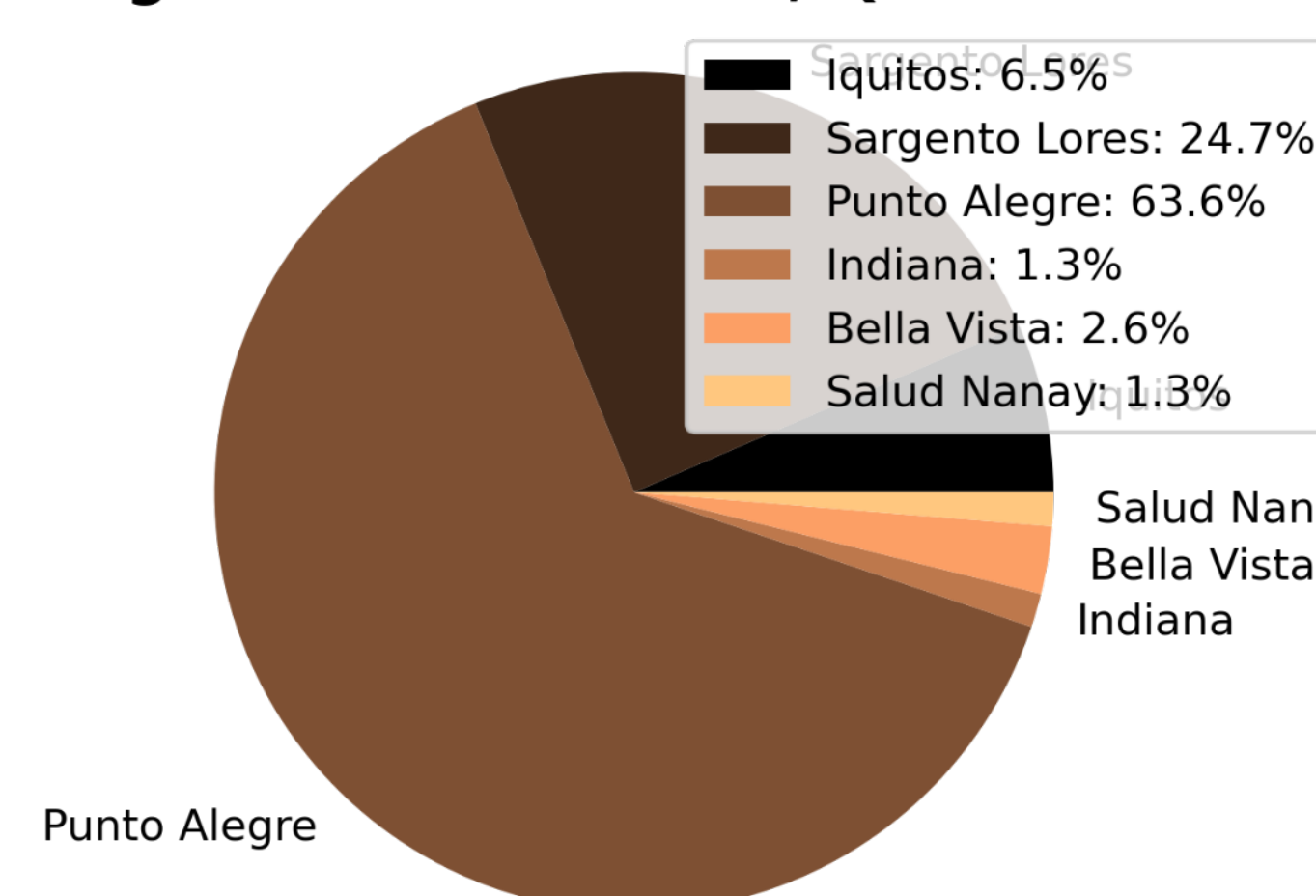


Figure 2. Community Locations, Question 1



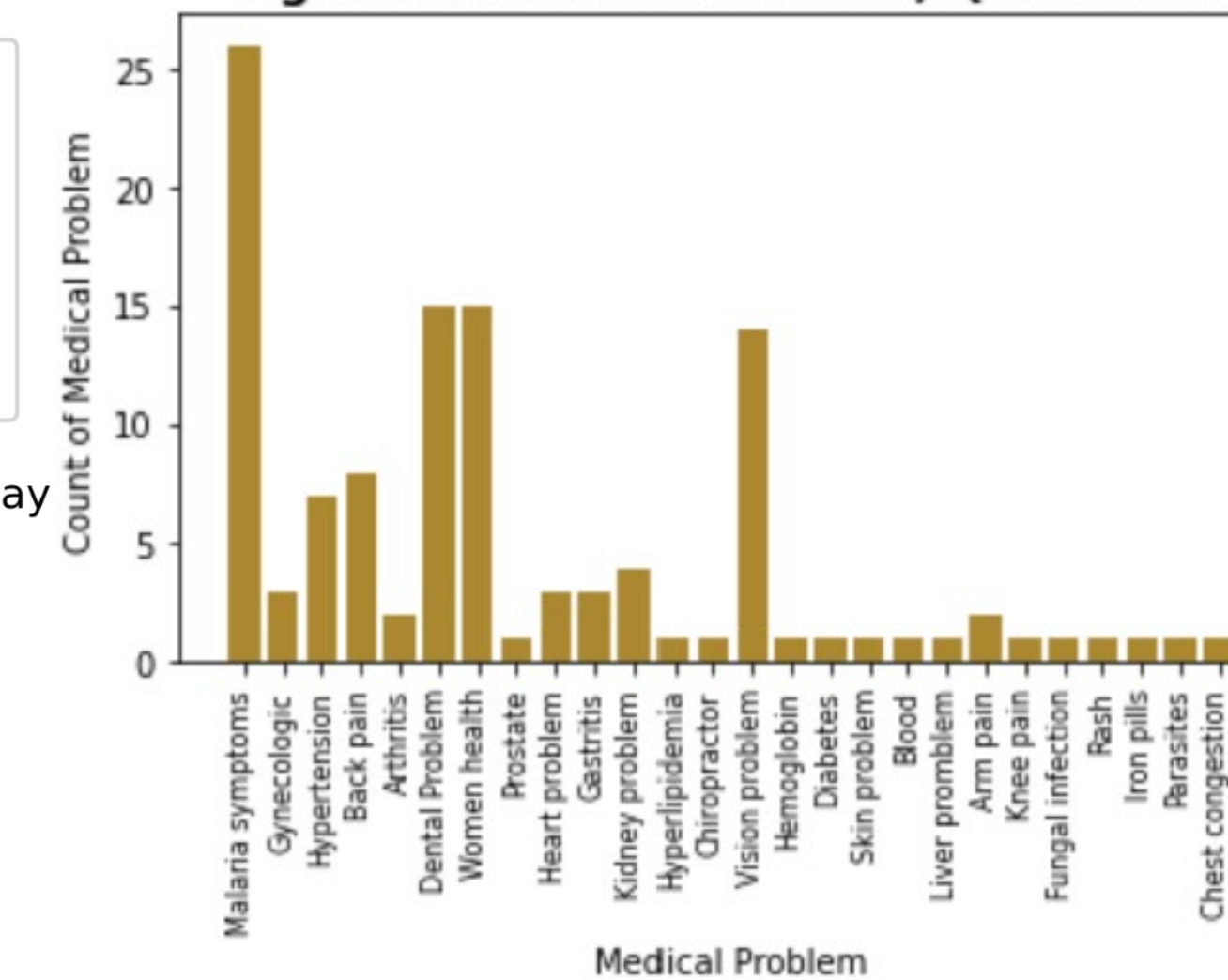
Health Post

Figure 3. Health Post, Question 2



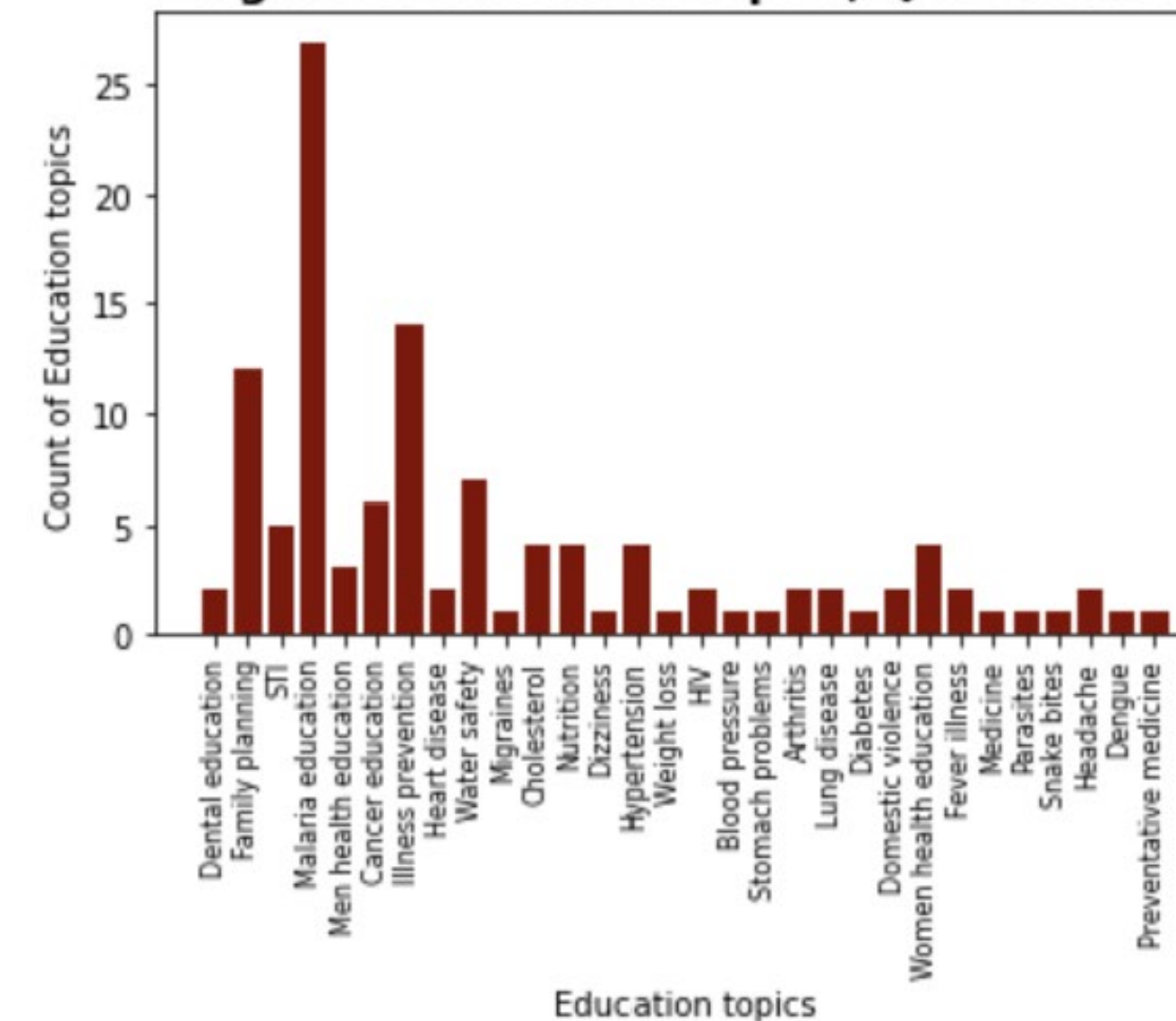
Medical Problem

Figure 4. Medical Problem, Question 3



Educational Topic

Figure 5. Education topics, Question 27



Main Three Issues

Identifying **malaria** as a problem

At Risk: **Punto Alegre** community and health post

The need for **malaria education**

Main recommendations

- **Involvement of Punto Alegre communities** and leaders at all levels of planning and implementation of malaria education needs assessment.
- **Train personnel or volunteers** about epidemiology, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of malaria.
- Establish a **malaria newsletter** for injection sites and provide **workshop education** regarding malaria prevention actions and treatment.

Conclusion

To better understand the communities and health posts, the SIA Medical Mission QI Patient Survey brought three main issues which help brought up recommendations.

- Some limitations presented in the study were the survey participants were based on self-report, which could have introduced response bias. Reliability and validity issues should be considered from the coding of qualitative responses into quantitative data.
- A substantial implementation research should focus on ancestral knowledge and the conflicts with western prevention and treatment in Loreto communities.

Acknowledgments & Reference

The QR code will link you to the acknowledgments and reference.

