

**Table 1 Characteristics and treatment-seeking practice of cases with severe malaria**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Omdurman (n = 75)</b>	<b>Wad Medani (n = 99)</b>	<b>Sennar (n = 304)</b>	<b>Gedaref (n = 65)</b>	<b>Total (n = 543)</b>
Median age of cases (75th percentile) (months)	36 (72)	36 (72)	36 (60)	60 (96)	36 (72)
Median age of cases who died (75 percentile) (months)	–	60 (144)	60 (96)	72 (108)	66 (108)
<i>Sex (%)</i>					
Male	67	62	54	48	56
Female	33	38	46	52	44
<i>Father's occupation (%)</i>					
Government employee	47	50	43	42	44
Farmer	15	35	40	42	48
Other	38	15	17	16	8
<i>Illiteracy level (%)</i>					
Father	32	39	52	63	48
Mother	60	51	72	89	69
<i>Season (% of cases)</i>					
August	9.3	17.2	10.9	13.8	12 (CFR% 7.4%)
September	29.3	25.3	23.7	26.2	25 (CFR% 1.4%)
October	17.3	27.3	36.8	40.0	32.8 (CFR% 1.2%)
November	17.3	30.3	21.1	20.0	22.1 (CFR% 4.2%)
December	26.7	0	7.6	0	7.9 (CFR% 0%)
Health units available at local level (%)	52.0	25.3	34.2	32.3	34.8
Median time to reach health unit (75% percentile) (minutes)	1 (15)	15 (30)	15 (30)	15 (30)	15 (30)
Availability of pharmacy at local level (%)	30.7	68.7	4.5	28.5	23.8
Early action taken before admission	38/75 (50.7%)	81/99 (81.8%)	183/304 (60.2%)	37/65 (56.9%)	339/543 (62.4%)
Action taken at home	5/38 (13.2%)	63/81 (77.8%)	120/183 (65.6%)	7/37 (18.9%)	195/339 (57.5%)
Antimalarials given at home	4/5 (80.0%)	39/63 (61.9%)	69/120 (57.5%)	1/7 (14.3%)	113/195 (57.9%)
Medium time to reach the hospital by vehicle (hours)	1.5	1	1	0.5	2

CFR% = case-fatality rate%.