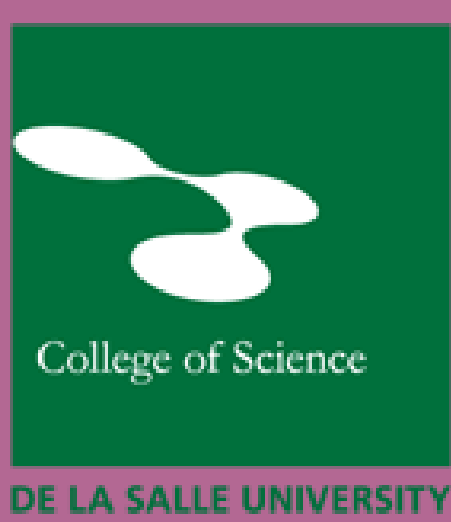


Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices on the Control and Prevention of Soil-Transmitted Helminthiases Among Residents of San Antonio, Quezon, Philippines



^{1,2}Johanna Camille D. Liwanagan, and ¹Mary Jane C. Flores, PhD
¹Biology Department, College of Science, De La Salle University, Manila, Philippines
²University of Santo Tomas- Senior High School, España, Manila, Philippines
Corresponding author's email: johannaliwanagan@gmail.com



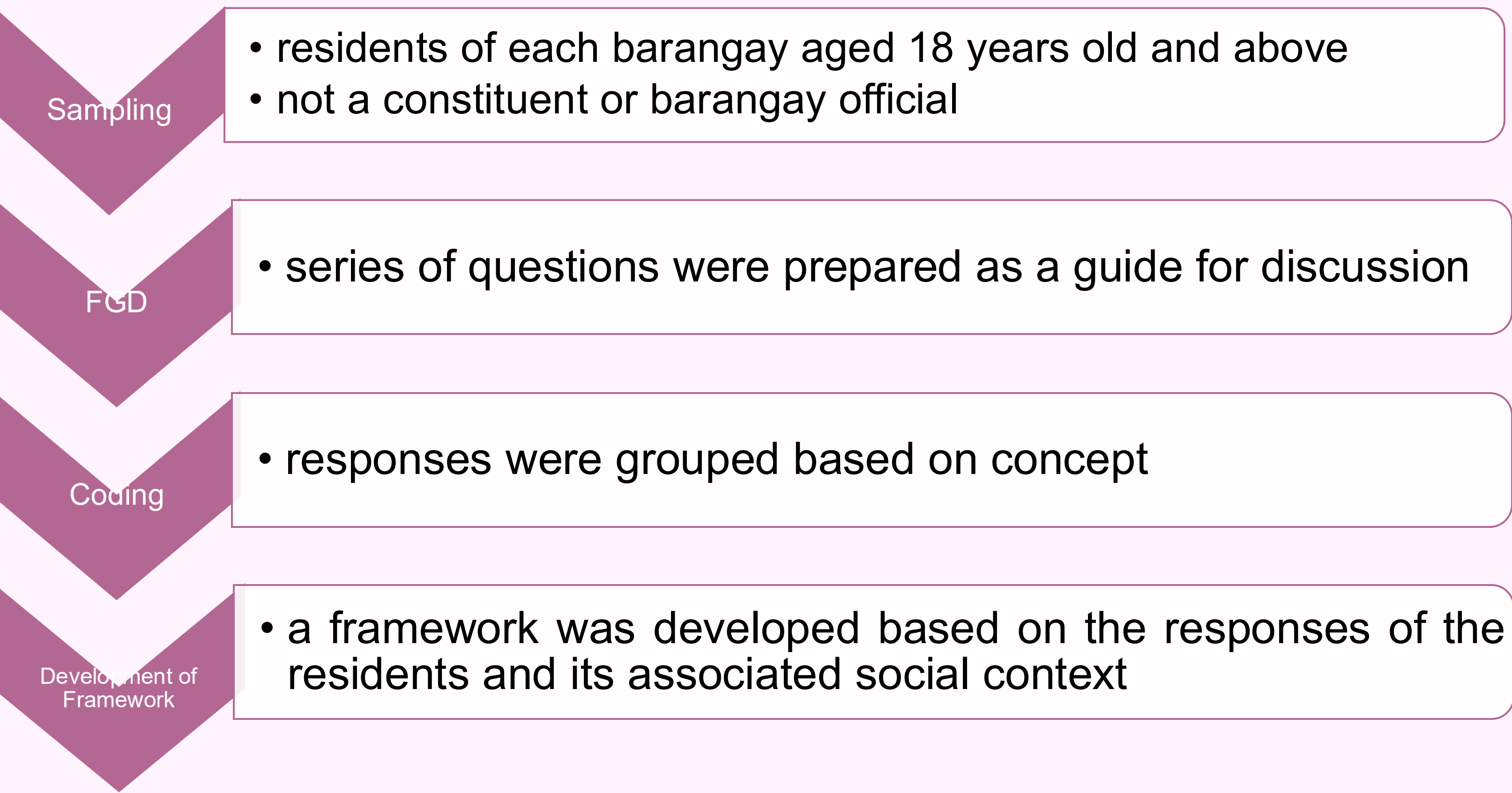
Introduction

Soil-transmitted helminthiases are considered one of the neglected tropical diseases. This affects 1.5 billion people worldwide. The Philippines is recorded to have some of the highest prevalence levels of STH infections in Southeast Asia. In 2023, the World Health Organization estimated that around 48 million children in the country needed preventive chemotherapy. However, preventive chemotherapy does not prevent reinfection. The consistent practice of recommended water, sanitation, and hygiene behaviors is central to improving health outcomes, especially in children.

Objectives

To describe the knowledge, attitudes, and practices regarding the control and prevention of STH infections of San Antonio, Quezon residents.

Methodology



Results

Knowledge

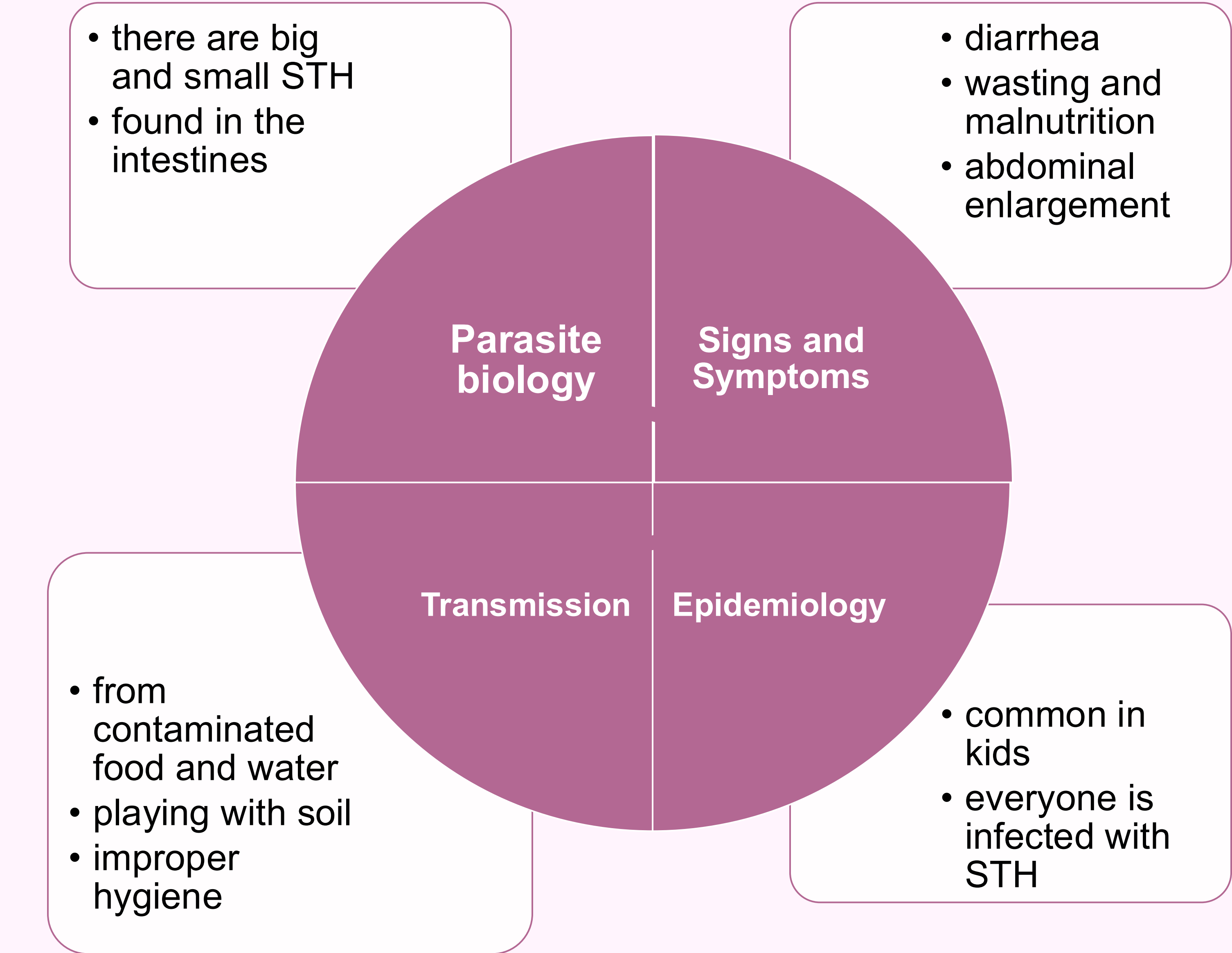


Figure 1. Residents' knowledge about STH.

Misconceptions about STH

- Amoeba* is considered an STH
- A person cannot survive without STH
- It can be obtained from eating raw rice grains and sugar

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Attitudes

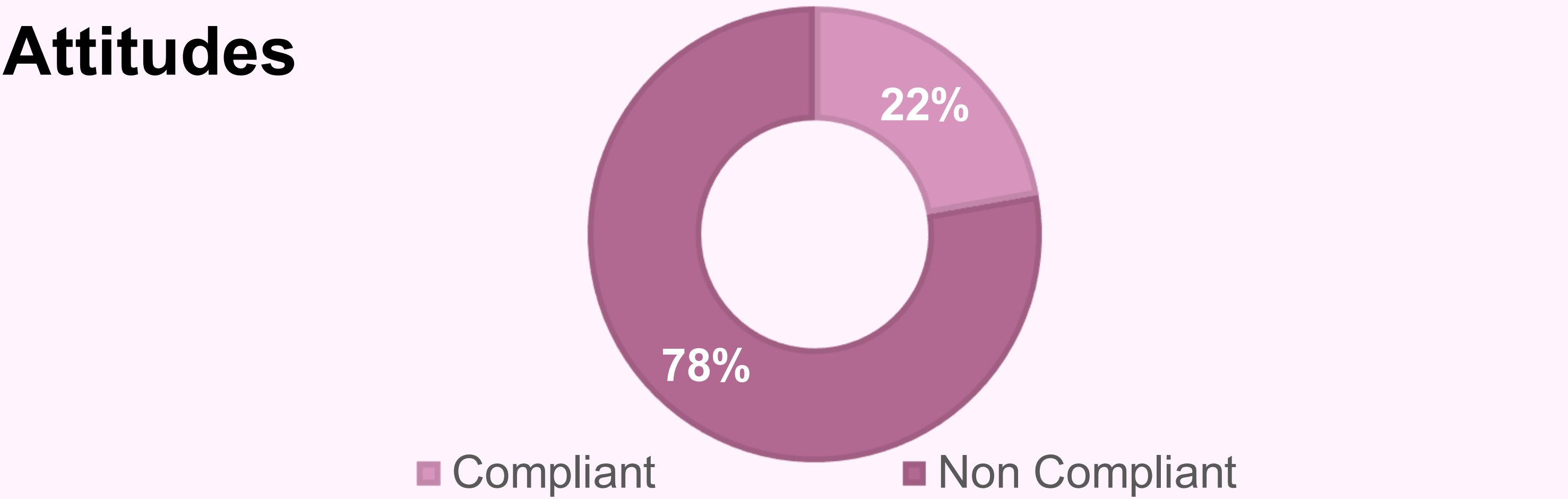


Figure 2. Percentage of Residents that are Compliant to Deworming Protocol.

Practices

- Farmers are forced not to wear slippers or footwear whenever they are planting, as this prevents them from doing their job quickly.
- Some farmers and fishermen defecate in the soil or water whenever they feel the urge to defecate while at work.
- Only a few individuals forget to wash their hands before and after eating.

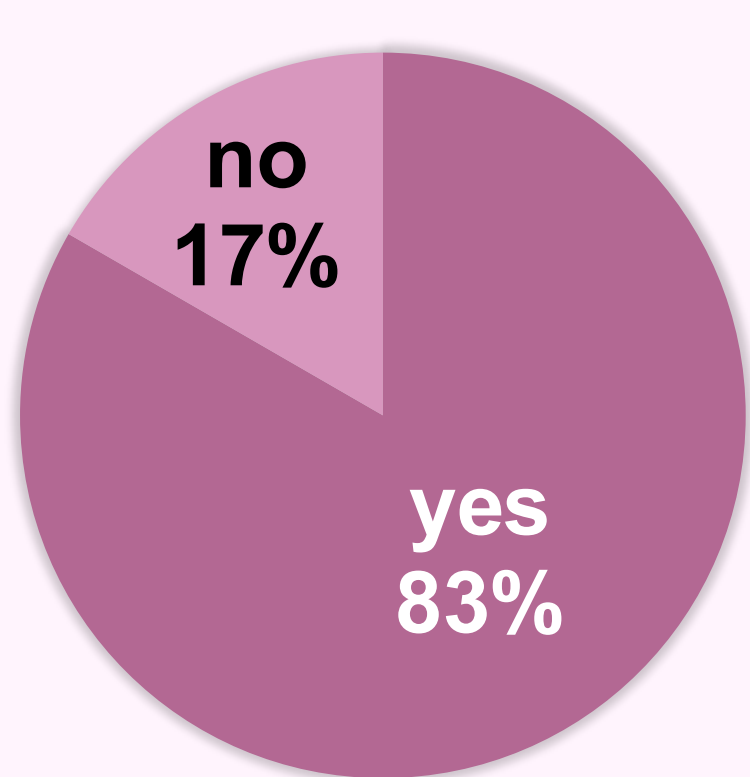


Figure 3. Percentage of Residents that Use Footwear.

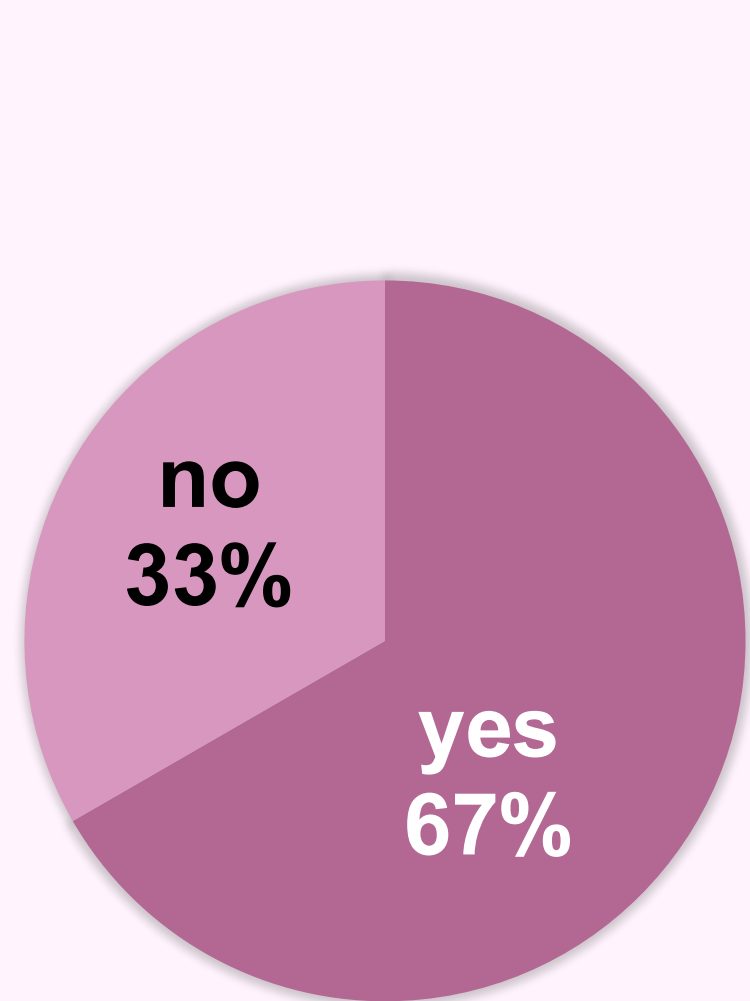


Figure 4. Percentage of Residents who refrain from open defecation.

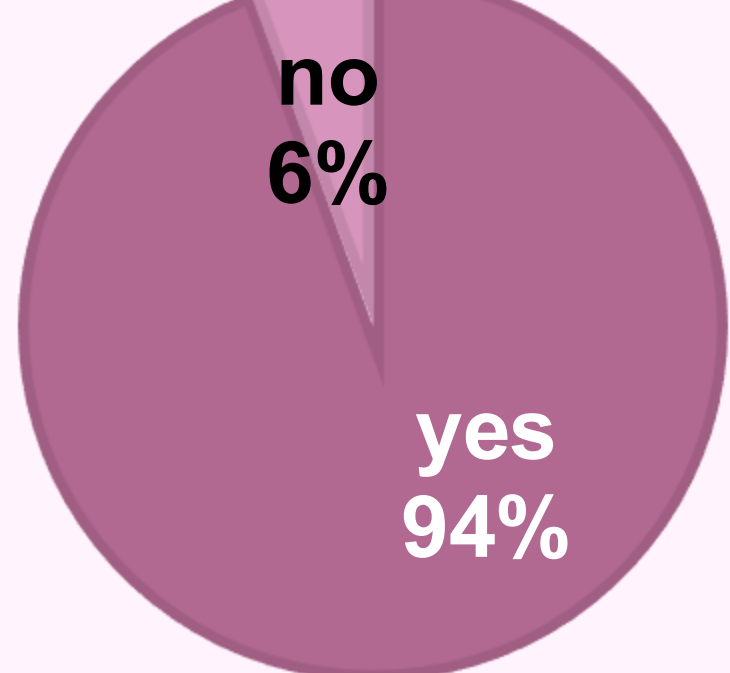


Figure 5. Percentage of Residents who wash their hands before and after eating.

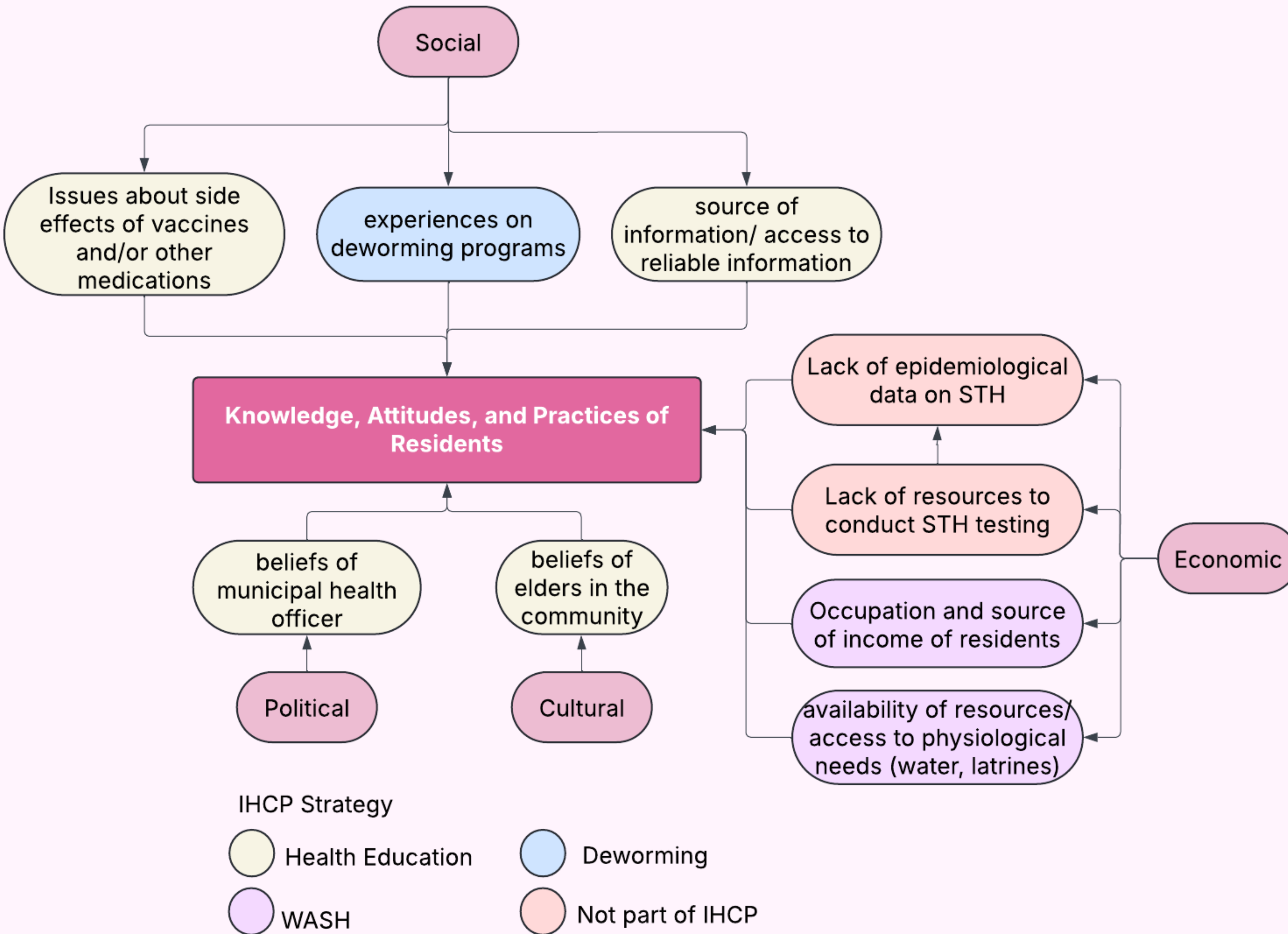


Figure 6. Framework of Responses. There were social, political, cultural, and economic factors that affected the knowledge, attitudes, and practices of the residents against STH infections.

Conclusion

The residents of San Antonio, Quezon, have good hygiene and sanitary practices, but lacked the knowledge about STH and exhibited negative attitude towards deworming.

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