

JUMA AND TRACHOMA



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MEDICAL STRIP CARTOON collection

JUMA AND TRACHOMA

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Creation and edition of health
Educative Material

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JUMA, MARIAM AND THEIR MOTHER ARE GOING BACK HOME. THEY ARE FETCHING WATER DRAWN FROM THE FOUNTAIN.



THE DAY AFTER, IN THE CLASS ROOM...

TRACHOMA? WELL,
GOOD QUESTION, JUMA!
I WAS GOING TO TALK YOU
ABOUT IT!!



TRACHOMA IS AN INFECTIOUS AND
VERY CONTAGIOUS DISEASE; IT IS DUE
TO THE PRESENCE OF A MICRO-ORGANISM (*)
WHICH COMES TO LODGE ITSELF IN THE
INNER LINING OF THE EYELID (CONJUNCTIVA)
WHICH BECOMES INFLAMED (RED) THE
EYES ARE RUNNING.



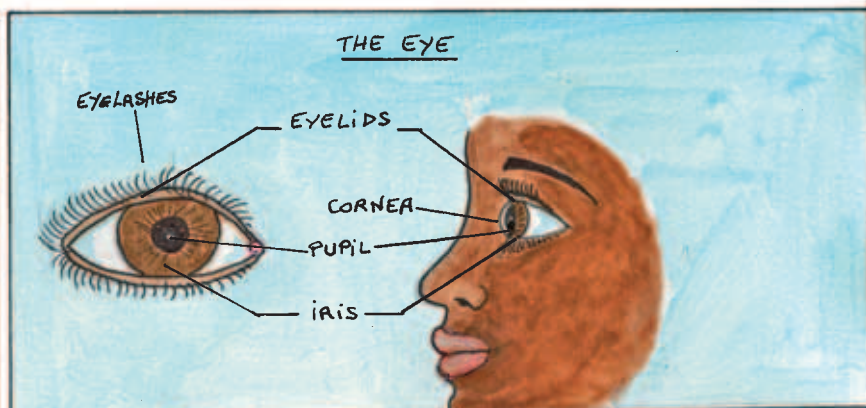
(*) IT IS CALLED "CHLAMYDIA
TRACHOMATIS"

VERY OFTEN THE INFECTIONS STARTS
WITHIN CHILDHOOD UNDER THE AGE OF
FIVE AND LAST FOR MANY YEARS;
MOTHERS ARE OFTEN RE-INFECTED
THROUGH THE CONTACT WITH THEIR
CHILDREN...

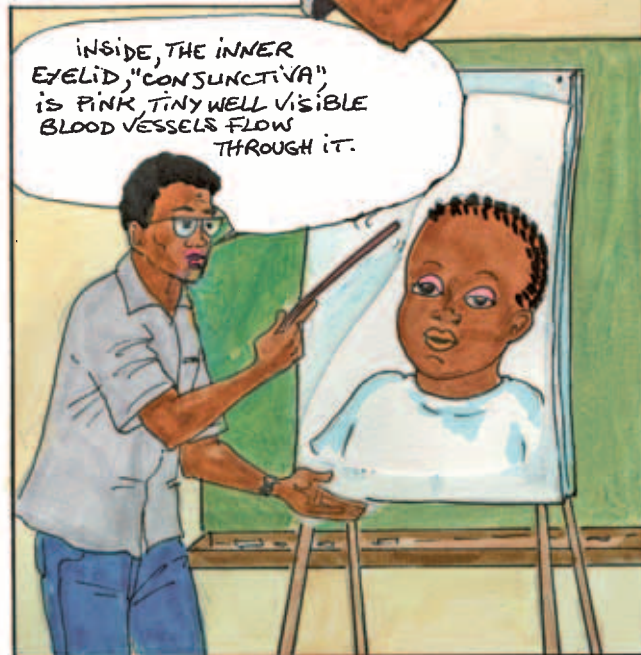


BUT... HOW CAN
EYE INFECTION RESULT
INTO BLINDNESS?





CORNEA IS LIKE A FINE AND VERY TRANSPARENT PANE; IT COVERS THE EYE SURFACE. WHILE FLATTERING, EYELIDS AND EYELASHES PROTECT EYES FROM DUST, INSECTS, ETC...







YES, JUMA! BUT IT IS MORE PRECISELY THE CONTACT WITH THE LIQUID WHICH RUNS FROM THEIR EYES ...



THUS, VERY OFTEN WHEN CHILDREN PLAY TOGETHER, THEY TOUCH EACH OTHER'S FACES AND SO INFECT ONE ANOTHER. OR, WHEN THEY SLEEP CLOSE TO EACH OTHER...



...THE INFECTION OCCURS ALSO BETWEEN CHILDREN AND MOTHER, WHEN SHE CLEANS THE FACE OF HER CHILDREN WITH HER VEIL OR A TAIL OF HER DRESS...



FLIES CAN ALSO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INFECTION : DRAWN BY THE EYES SECRETIONS, THEY LAND ON THEM AND THEN GO TOWARDS OTHER CHILDREN AND THUS INFECT THEM WITH TRACHOMA .



AT THIS STAGE, IT IS EASY TO TREAT TRACHOMA, BUT HOW CAN ONE KNOW THAT CHILDREN HAVE IT ?

THEY HAVE RUNNY NOSE AND EYES !

THEIR EYES ARE RED !

FLIES ARE COMING TOWARDS THEM !



... WHEN THOSE SYMPTOMS APPEAR, TREATMENT IS FIRST OF ALL : WASHING THE FACE WITH CLEAR WATER SEVERAL TIMES A DAY (A SMALL QUANTITY OF WATER IS NEEDED)



... THEN, RUBBING ANTI-BIOTIC OINTMENT INTO THE EYES (IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO TAKE ALL THE QUANTITY PRESCRIBED FOR AS LONG TIME AS RECOMMENDED).



ORAL TREATMENT IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN TABLETS OR SYRUP.

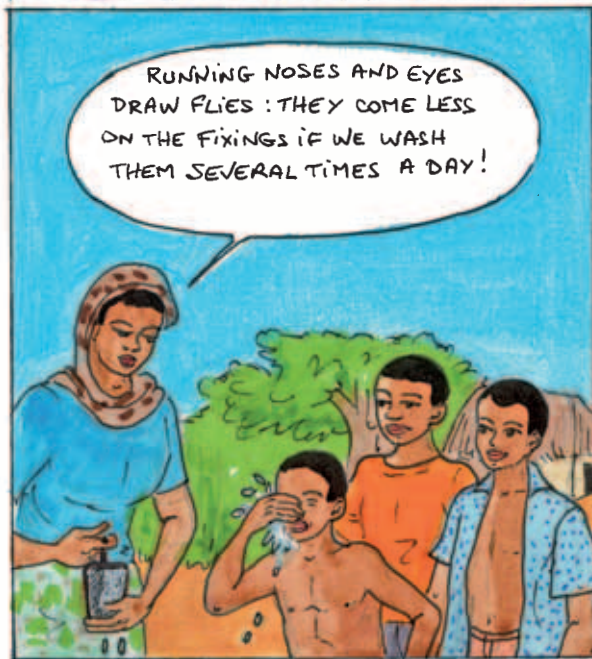
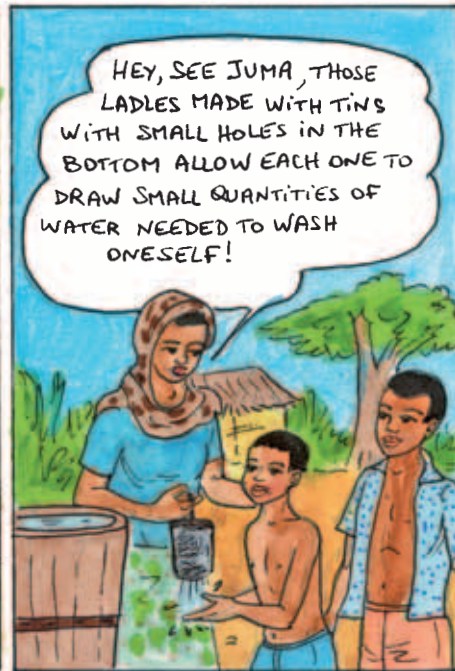
LATER, WHEN THE EYE LASHES ARE DISTORBED BECAUSE OF TRACHOMA, A MINOR SURGICAL OPERATION IS ESSENTIAL : THIS HELPS PEOPLE AVOID BECOMING BLIND!



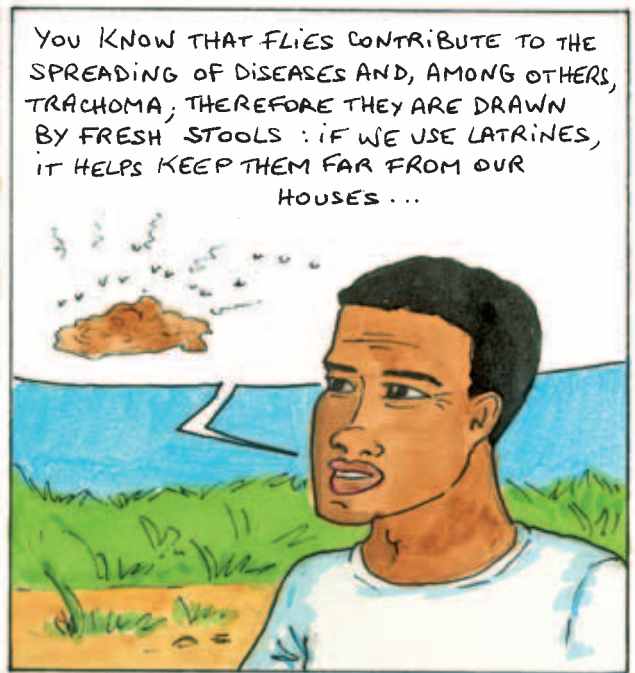
IT IS A LOT EASIER TO PREVENT TRACHOMA FROM DEVELOPING!!

YES, INDEED!
NOW YOU CAN GO AND OBSERVE ALL THE MEASURES THAT CAN BE TAKEN TO PREVENT IT!!

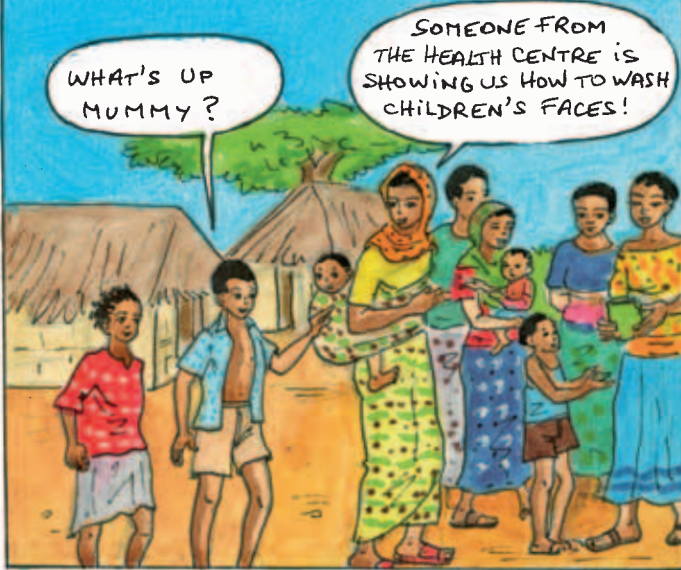








LATER THE CHILDREN SEE A GROUP OF VILLAGE WOMEN...



TRY TO ANSWER SOME QUESTIONS ...

- WHAT ARE THE MAIN SYMPTOMS OF TRACHOMA ?

- HOW IS IT TRANSMITTED FROM PERSON TO PERSON ?

- WHAT IS THE TREATMENT OF TRACHOMA ?

- WHAT ARE THE MAIN MEASURES TO PREVENT TRACHOMA ?

- WHAT HAVE YOU DONE IN YOUR FAMILY AND IN YOUR VILLAGE TO PREVENT TRACHOMA ?

- WHY HAVE WE TO USE LATRINES ?

