The disease is contracted when tiny water fleas are consumed, typically through contaminated drinking water. After a person consumes the water, the larvae grows inside a persons stomach, sometimes as much as three feet long. The disease is ancient, and according to the Carter Center is soised to become only the second disease to be eradicated from earth+after smallpox.

large water filters that could filter out larvae from the water. Within one year, she and the other workers reduced the number of cases of Guinea worm by 47% in 18 villages.

At a conference in Africa, she displayed her filter frame, explaining how it worked. All of a sudden, Carter walked over.

‰ly

%t that press conference, he was doing whatever he could, with whatever he had ... to continue to try and make a difference for others,+she said. %mean, how selfless, how amazingly selfless.+

--Staff reporter Ernie Suggs contributed to this report.