Breaking the Ebola Virus Disease chain of transmission in Liberia; the role of Montserrado County sectorial surveillance system

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Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)

- August 2014 – EVD declared Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)
- January 2015 - EVD cases on the decline in Liberia
- Montserrado county
  - Gaps in contact identification and follow up
  - EVD cases missed by surveillance system
- Introduction of sectorial approach
  - Surveillance decentralized to 4 sectors
  - Early identification of cases and contacts
Objectives

- Assess attributes of Sectorial EVD surveillance
- Evaluate distribution and spread of EVD cases
- Conduct SWOT analysis of sectorial surveillance
Liberia – Montserrado county
Methods

• Sector 3 epidemiological and laboratory data January to March 2015 analysed - Epi info 7
• Key informant interview - relevant MOSHW and Sector stakeholders
• SWOT analysis
Sector information flow chart
Sectorial surveillance attributes

- Simple and acceptable
  - Case definitions
  - Community participation
- Sensitive
  - System identified all suspected cases and contacts
- Timeliness of reporting
- Data quality
Epicurve of Sector 3 suspected EVD cases

Last confirmed case
### Sectorial approach SWOT analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
<th>Opportunities</th>
<th>Threats</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Decentralisation/Effective partner coordination</td>
<td>Incomplete data and missing laboratory samples</td>
<td>Capacity building</td>
<td>Sustainability</td>
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<td>Enhanced community engagement (improve burial practices)</td>
<td>Limited logistical support to sector response team</td>
<td>Strengthening other aspects of response IPC, clinical care, Laboratory and Public health education</td>
<td>Stigmatization</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Conclusion

• The Montserrado county EVD sectorial approach
  – Played an integral role in breaking the EVD chain of transmission
  – All cases and contacts identified
  – Decentralized and coordinated surveillance and response led to zero EVD confirmed cases in Liberia
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Thank you!