



RCCE IN CASE MANAGEMENT & IPC

RCCE CROSS-BORDER TRAINING, MOMBASSA WORKSHOP

15-19 APRIL 2024



**World Health
Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR **Africa**

PRESENTATION OUTLINE



- I. Introduction
- II. Burden of Health Emergencies
- III. Negative Outcomes on Response Efforts due to Inadequacy or Absence of RCCE Activities
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- V. Role of RCCE in Outbreak Control
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INTRODUCTION



Africa has the largest burden of public health events annually – 92% being infectious in nature



With the weakest emergency care systems



Majority of outbreaks occurring in complex situations



Communities play a major role in the effectiveness of response efforts



RCCE integration into case management and IPC is crucial for effective response



BURDEN OF HEALTH EMERGENCIES



World Health Organization Malawi

Health topics ▾ Countries ▾ Newsroom ▾ Data and evidence ▾ About us ▾

Malawi declares polio outbreak

Malawi has declared an outbreak of wild poliovirus type 1 after a case was detected in Malawi after eliminating all forms of wild polio from the region. Laborato...

2020 after eliminating all forms of wild polio from the region. Laborato... that has been circulating in Sindh Province in Pakistan. Polio... this outbreak does not affect the African...

THE NATION

HOME NEWS POLITICS BUSINESS ENTERTAINMENT

Leprosy resurfaces, stirs pain

by Nation Online — 22/06/2022 in National News 3 min read

National Tuberculosis and Leprosy Elimination Program has 410 cases registered for the first time since 1994 when the disease was eliminated in the country.



World Health Organization

COVID-19 DAILY INFO UPDATE

NEW CASES	38	CUMULATIVE CONFIRMED CASES	86,287
TOTAL RECOVERED	82,979 (9 New)	CURRENTLY ADMITTED TREATMENT UNITS	11 (1 New)

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Cholera - Malawi

27 April 2022

Chiradzulu patient did not have monkeypox – Ministry of Health

Secondary school student murdered in Shaka National Park

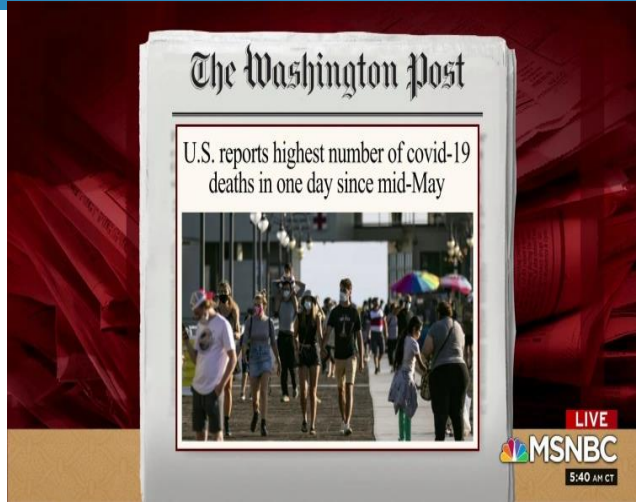
Chiradzulu patient did not have monkeypox – Ministry of Health

Outbreak at a glance

The Ministry of Health declared a cholera outbreak in Malawi on 3 March 2022, following laboratory confirmation of a case in the country. A second case was detected in on 7 March. As of 26 April 2022, 76 cholera cases and four deaths have been reported, of which 97% (76 cases) have been reported



NEGATIVE OUTCOMES ON RESPONSE EFFORTS DUE TO INADEQUACY OR ABSENCE OF RCCE ACTIVITIES



LIVE
MSNBC
5:40 AM CT

Quarantine and Its Malcontents How Liberians Responded to the Ebola Epidemic Containment Measures

Umberto Pellicchia

Abstract: This article examines how populations affected by the Ebola epidemic in Liberia reacted to the implementation of mandatory, state-imposed quarantine as a way of curtailing transmission. The ethnography, based on in-depth fieldwork in both urban and rural areas, shows how mandatory quarantine caused severe social consequences for both people's perceptions of epidemic control and their health-seeking behaviors. The authoritarian imposition of this public-health measure soon became a driver of social fear that contributed to the divide between institutions and population, jeopardizing the control of transmission. Its implementation overshadowed more acceptable local quarantine measures that communities were engaging in to protect themselves from transmission. The analysis argues that quarantine in Liberia was counterproductive and suggests alternatives to epidemic control rooted in social acceptance and local practices.

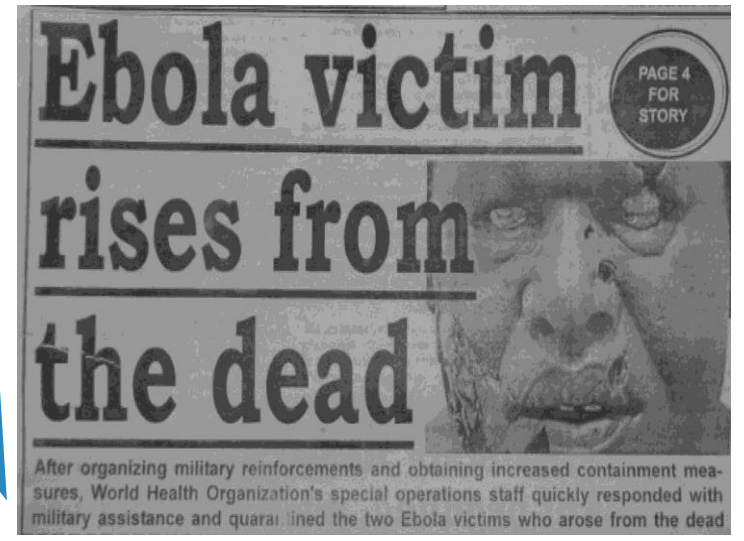
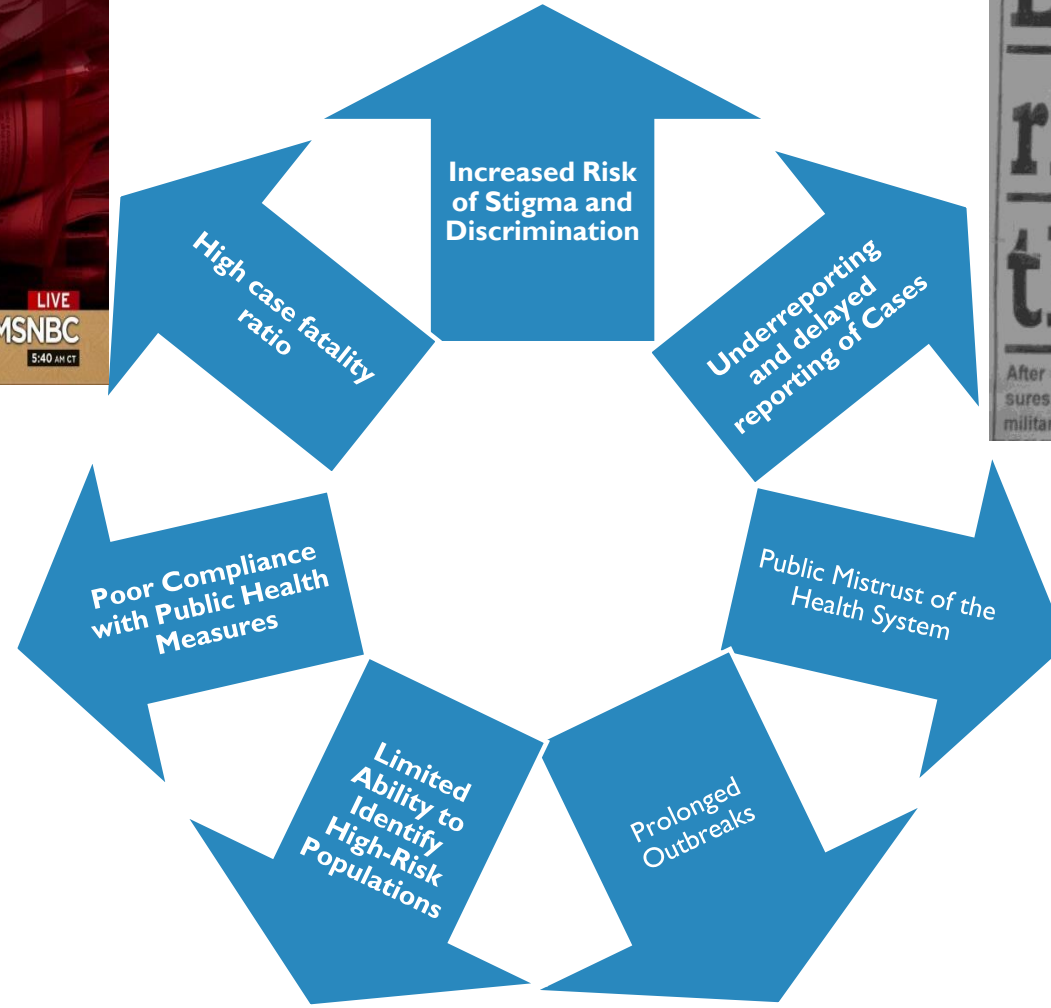
Keywords: Ebola, Liberia, outbreak control, public health, quarantine, social fear

It was a rainy Wednesday morning in late August 2014 when the residents of West Point, Monrovia, were first trapped inside their neighborhood, a piece of land surrounded on all sides by water and connected to the rest of the city by a bridge. Police came in numbers to enforce a *cordon sanitaire* across the entire area to contain what was considered to be a potentially explosive area for the spread of the deadly Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) that had at this point already killed 1,200 people in those countries across West Africa. The armed wings of the Liberian Government were disguised behind protective and riot equipment, their faces and bodies protected from the stares thrown by locals protesting against what they perceived to be abuse. Wearing their own version of PPE,¹ the officers with teargas wore for the population of West Point, representative of their Government's response to a high-level public-health concern. This harsh, violent response to controlling the transmission of Ebola was officially justified by

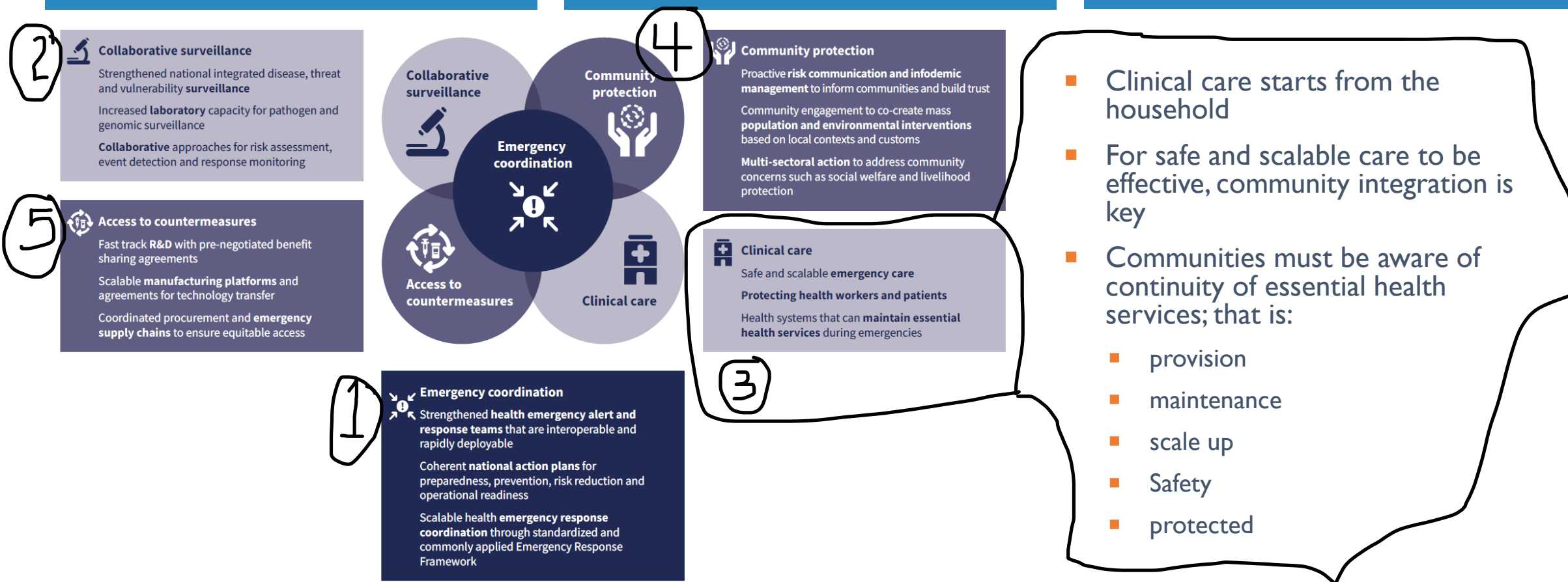
reasoning that West Point is a slum area (Cryder et al. 2015), whose residents were accused of being non-compliant to requests to report suspected cases of Ebola and dead bodies. High ranks of the Liberian Government blamed customary of Liberia for continued deaths, cultural burying practices, disregard for the advice of health workers and disregard for the warnings by the Government² and thus justified an armed intervention. The Government took force and forced quarantine of an entire neighborhood such as this one as being in the interests of the wider public.

Unfortunately, this event resulted in the death of the young (Shake) Karamba, a fifteen-year-old boy shot in the legs by a police officer during the protests against the mandatory quarantine, and many others being wounded. West Point's events paved the road for forced quarantine as a containment measure of EVD transmission to spread across Liberia. It was a highly contested and debated public-health strategy

Anthropology in Action, 24 (2017), 15–24 © Douglas Books and the Association for Anthropology in Action
10.1080/15487716.2017.1353203 (Shake)
doi:10.1080/15487716.2017.1353203



5 OUTBREAK RESPONSE CORNERSTONES



ROLE OF RCCE IN OUTBREAK CONTROL - COMMUNITY CASE MANAGEMENT

RCCE
Address
community
Case
Management
& IPC
through:

- Risk communication, community engagement (RCCE) on health systems trust
- Safe home remedy messaging
- Messaging of household IPC measures
- Healthcare system referrals (access to care)
- Early Symptoms and when to seek care

Factors associated with inadequate RCCE in Case management

- Late presentation to health facilities
- Poor health seeking behaviors
- Increased community deaths
- Disease spread through unsafe gatherings and unsupervised burials

HOME BASED CARE INITIATIVE (HBCI) IN COVID-19



- Increased numbers of COVID-19 cases overwhelmed the all health systems around the world
- Home based care was an initiative to management mild cases of the disease in the community
- RCCE integrated in case management & IPC provided crucial messages to communities to care for mild cases at household level
- Over 5,000 Community healthcare workers and medical students were trained in Zambia, Lesotho and South Africa to support the HBCI for COVID-19 mild cases

INTEGRATED COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACH IN CHOLERA RESPONSE



RCCE

- Provide IEC materials
- Assess household knowledge
- Map community influencers
- Liaise with EHT for organizing community meetings

Case Management

- Provide ORS to patients
- Link cases to ORPs
- Monitor mild cases for signs of deterioration
- Alert EHT for prompt referral

WaSH

- Identify communal water points
- Provide chlorine tablets and train households to prepare chlorine solutions
- Liaise with EHT for decontamination of water points

INTEGRATED COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACH IN CHOLERA RESPONSE - MALAWI



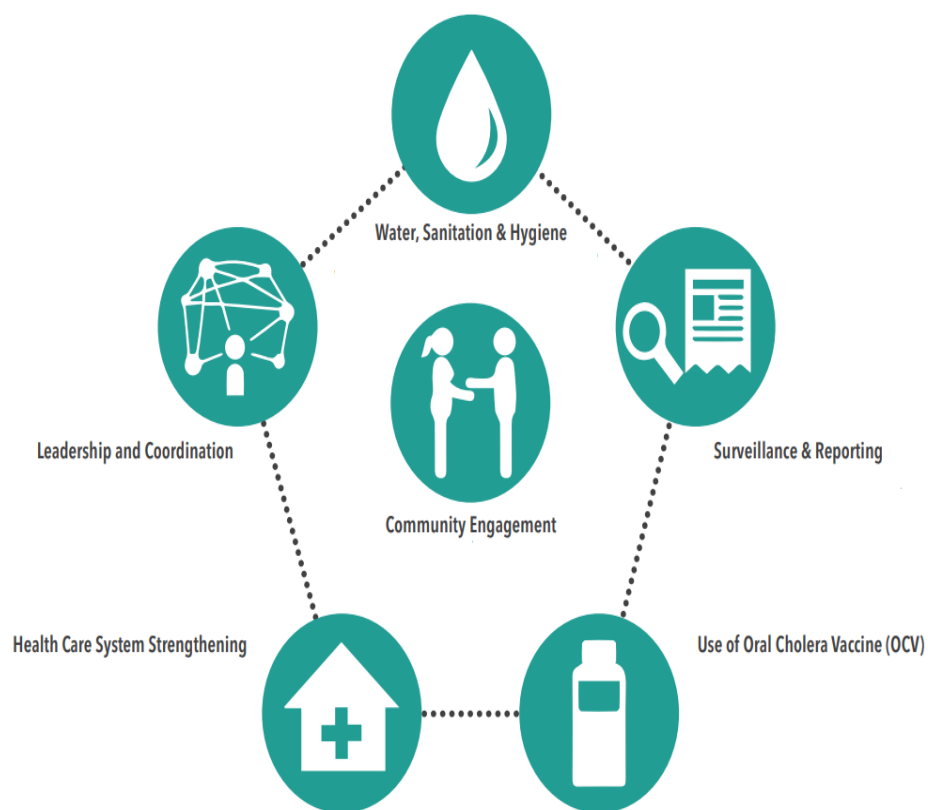
- 246 Oral Rehydration Points (ORPs) Established; with support from IFRC, UNICEF, WHO and Ministry of Health Malawi during the 2022 – 2023 Malawi cholera outbreak
- With over 26,000 mild cases seen at these ORPs
- Effective way of control of large outbreaks
- Saving resources and Lives

COMMUNITY HYGIENE KITS DISTRIBUTION IN CHOLERA OUTBREAK - SOUTH AFRICA



- WHO, UNICEF and MSF collaborated in hygiene kit distribution in South Africa
- 7,000 cholera hygiene kits distributed in Hammanskraal area of Tswane district in Gauteng province of south Africa to stop the spread of cholera
- RCCE, integrated with community IPC/ Case Management and WaSH to ensure community is protected, active case search and community household water treatment
- Initiative was effective in the control of a small cholera outbreak

CONCLUSION



- Community Engagement is at the center of an effective disease outbreak response; cross-cutting in management of mild cases, improved access to safe care and protection of communities through IPC measures at household level.
- Promotes adherence to PHM and builds trust in the health systems

