

# **ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY IN OUTBREAK RESPONSE**

LESSON FROM ISIRO/DRC

By

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# Outbreak

- Global panic??!!
- Panic at all levels:
  - Individual HCW, patient and visitor part of community
  - Facility , district, regional levels
  - National level and,
  - Worldwide

# Success

- To implement successfully IPC program in outbreak response includes:
  - Patient participation
  - Community mobilization/involvement and,
  - Political commitment

# Outbreak - Doubt

- Accept by some in the community, but
- Ignore and denied by other (Ebola does not exist!!!)

# Strategies

Getting message across the community includes:

- Define and Communicate CD with others
- Train HCWs in case identification (in-charge)
- Translate the CD into local language and train community mobilizers to take message to people
- Develop leaflets and distribute in community
- Use of community influencing person to get info
- Get intervention from political authorities
- Buy-in info from communities

# Activities

- Ebola video show
- Training lunch meeting with local authorities
- Continuous media announcements 8h00 – 19h00
- Daily visit to endemic zones and reporting to outbreak working group emergency response
- Daily counseling session done by social worker in the community and staff

# WHO - MoH Actions

- PPEs
- Logistics – transport
- Per diem/Incentives
- HCMW
- Create and implement local incinerator
- HH using chlorine 0.5%
- Etc

# On-spot training

- Practical and focused on:
  - HH
  - HCWM
  - Use of PPEs
  - Patient placement
  - Etc



# Care - Management

- Restrict all rural movements in the endemic zones
- Spray all domiciles and patients rooms after deaths
- Vehicles and locomotives carrying cops
- Tents
- Burning of exposed linens and tents
- Incinerating used PPEs
- Incinerating all waste from isolation room and patient linens after use

# Burial

- Very challenging!!!!
- Should be done by outbreak team in collaboration with family members, but
- Community members do not allow the IPC/Outbreak response team to take over burial of their relatives
- Always , a pioneer community member, local authority and police officer should be their to influence safe behavior

# Achievements

- Daily surveillance meetings with team including community representative
- Report on new cases, isolation, logistics
- Update on the outbreak response to all
- Scale-up strategies and activities
- Plan for next day activities
- Monitor the progress of outbreak

# Please remember...

Your membership registration is very important to  
quality improvement for patient safety!

<http://www.icanetwork.co.za>

[http://www.who.int/patientsafety/implementation  
/apps/registration/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/patientsafety/implementation/apps/registration/en/index.html)

<http://www.webbertraining.com>

**Thank you!**