LIBERIA: A MEASLES VACCINATION CAMPAIGN IN THE CONTEXT OF AN EBOLA OUTBREAK

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EBOLA EPIDEMIC CURVE - LIBERIA 2014-2015

Number of Confirmed Ebola Cases/Day up to 7th May 2015 as moving average per day in the last 21 days
MEASLES IS MORE CONTAGIOUS THAN EBOLA

The number of people that one sick person will infect (on average) is called $R_0$. Here are the maximum $R_0$ values for a few viruses.

- Hepatitis C: 2
- Ebola: 2
- HIV: 4
- SARS: 4
- Mumps: 10
- Measles: 18

More contagious
For the time being, to avoid mass gatherings, vaccination campaigns (SIAs) are advised to be postponed until the country has been declared Ebola free.
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“In light of the decline in Ebola cases, it is urgent to focus efforts on restarting and intensifying immunization activities.”
Elevated Measles Risk in Ebola-Stricken Regions

Decreased vaccination rates could lead to a deadlier measles outbreak, according to a study.

By Jenny Rood | March 13, 2015

Nearly all of the limited healthcare resources of Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone were diverted last year to cope with the Ebola crisis, leading to a drop in vaccination rates that could portend bigger measles outbreaks in the future, according to a study published this week (March 12) in *Science*.

Each measles patient can transmit the disease to an estimated 12 to 18 people. To understand how a reduced vaccination rate might affect future measles outbreaks, researchers from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Princeton University, Penn State University, and the University of Southampton modeled the impact of a 75 percent decrease in vaccination rate over 18 months of the Ebola epidemic.
COMMUNITY CONFIDENCE BUILDING

- 229,031 house to house visits conducted by volunteers and town criers
- 5992 community leaders and 5840 religious and traditional leaders trained and engaged
- 2760 community meetings held
- Print: 35,000+ flyers distributed as well as 5678 posters and 60 banners
- 3 radio spots and jingles produced and aired repeatedly on 67 radio stations
- Orientation and training sessions were held for civil society organizations, media houses, community health workers and other stakeholders
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### Response to Measles Outbreak

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campaign Element</th>
<th>Key Actors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General coordination &amp; program management</td>
<td>Ministry of Health (EPI, HP/CHS, Nutrition)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy guidance</td>
<td>WHO &amp; CDC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social mob and communication</td>
<td>UNICEF, Carter Center, Red Cross</td>
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<td>Bundle vaccines (measles) and cold chain</td>
<td>UNICEF/World Bank &amp; M&amp;RI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies orders &amp; distribution</td>
<td>e-Health, UNICEF and CDC</td>
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<td>Operational costs</td>
<td>UNICEF/World Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical support</td>
<td>WHO, UNICEF, CDC, USAID, Red Cross, CSOs, Carter Center, MSF France</td>
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RESULTS – LIBERIA MAY 2015 MEASLES SIAS
ADMINISTRATIVE AND SURVEY COVERAGE

[Bar chart showing administrative and survey coverage by county in Liberia, with bars for pre-measles and post-measles coverage.]