

VILLAGE RESPONSES TO EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE IN RURAL EASTERN SIERRA LEONE

Second interim report to the SMAC program, DFID Freetown

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Abstract

This report provides further output from an anthropological study of 25 villages affected by Ebola Virus Disease in eastern and central Sierra Leone, undertaken as part of the DFID-funded social mobilization initiative for Ebola prevention in Sierra Leone. Eight focus group transcripts for 3 villages in Kenema District are presented, covering local responses to health issues, and Ebola in particular. Supporting material from a matching questionnaire-based study of health behavior and perceived causes of Ebola is also provided. Of particular relevance are two summary tables aggregating the questions villagers asked survey teams about Ebola and quarantine-related issues in villages where the epidemic has in effect ceased to be active.

OVERVIEW

This report offers further output from a study of 25 villages in Kenema, Bo, Moyamba and Tonkolili Districts undertaken in December 2014 and intended to throw light on local responses to Ebola Virus Disease and EVD containment measures.

The study methodology combines quantitative and qualitative approaches to data gathering. A short questionnaire covering questions relating to health seeking behavior and the impact of EVD (including local understanding of causes of the epidemic) was administered to a random sample of adult males and females in all 25 villages. The sample size per village was c. 30 (50% male, 50% female). In all, 719 interviews were completed.

These data are used to provide a context for issues discussed in village focus group meetings. Three such meetings were held per village, concurrently, for male elders, women and young people (thus a total of 75 focus group meetings in all). Because the focus group meetings were held concurrently the results of each meeting can be considered and independent check on the other results for that village.

The questionnaire data sets can then be consulted in order to assess the typicality of the focus group responses.

An example is as follows. Focus groups were asked to consider causes of EVD infection. Typically four or five people per group would offer a range of explanations (for example, "contact with sick people", "taking part in funerals", "eating bush meat", "spraying chlorine by burial teams"). The questionnaire data sets then allow the reader to check how often these explanations occurred when a random sample of male and female adult villagers was asked the same question. It transpires that a majority of those interviewed state that bush meat is a cause of Ebola, about half mention contact with sick people, fewer mention washing corpses and funeral activity, and the idea of infection via chlorine spray turns out to be a view held by only a small minority.

The present report focuses on three villages in Kenema District (two Ebola-affected villages, Komende-Luyama and Peri-Fefewabu, and a control community, Sanola, without Ebola cases). Eight edited focus group transcriptions are presented (a ninth is still being entered into the computer). The transcripts for the Ebola-affected villages offer important information about the origins and extent of the two outbreaks, who was affected, and the impact of control measures then implemented.

The transcripts for Sanola, a small village close to the edge of the Gola Forest national park boundary, unaffected by Ebola, but rather remote from medical help, provides particularly rich information on village nursing and burial practices, including a detailed description of the various tasks, how they are performed and who performs them. This throws light on potential EVD infection pathways, if and when ambulances or burial teams are delayed in reaching outlying villages of this type.

Sanola is especially well known to the field team leader (EYM) and some of her research assistants from earlier research, and was contacted by telephone several times over the few weeks leading up to the survey to prepare people for the kinds of questions the team wanted to discuss. We are especially grateful for the seriousness with which villagers undertook this task, and the clarity and value of the resulting information.

The present report also offers some of the questionnaire data set relevant to assessing local understanding of the causes of Ebola virus disease. Two parallel questions were asked, separated by six intervening questions: "what do you understand to be the cause of this sickness [EVD]?" and "what is your own idea about how this disease [EVD] spreads?"

As in villages discussed in the earlier report, informants often provided significantly different answers to these similar questions (Tables 1-4). The first set of answers gives prominence to the idea that bush meat is a significant source of EVD infection. This factor is downplayed in the second set of answers, in which personal convictions were solicited. Contact with the sick and burial practices are emphasized more strongly in these answers.

There was, however, an additional and rather troubling notion in circulation. A number of people considered that chlorine spraying spread EVD. They seem to have had in mind the use of such sprays by Ebola burial teams. The issue came up in some of the focus group material. There it was claimed that the teams had threatened villagers with these sprays. It is hard to know what happened, but maybe burial teams made such threats when villagers refused teams access to corpses. Fear of chlorine caused enough concern for one villager to ask our team whether chlorine was a medicine or a poison (Table 5).

Tables 5 and 6 (questions from villagers to the team) are included because they throw light on some of the problems and concerns faced in parts of the country where Ebola infection has ended but where strict quarantine is still in place.

In effect, some of these questions are answered in the government decision to lift quarantine in seven districts of the country, and to re-open schools in March, announced on January 22nd 2015. Other issues, to do with food security, and promises to provide other assistance to Ebola-affected communities, remain outstanding.

Finally, Table 7 presents findings from the entire data set relating to the likelihood that villagers will delay reporting serious sickness to medical facilities.

The reasons for delay (typically one to three days from the onset of serious symptoms) are complex, and relate to economic factors (poverty, and the need to raise loans to cover the costs of medical assistance), and constraints on mobility. Sometimes, delay may also be related to the proximity of a health center (since it is easy then to seek help if the problem does not resolve itself spontaneously).

Overall, about a third of 719 villagers interviewed stated that they would wait some days before beginning to seek medical help, but the data set shows a considerable degree of variation. Villages closer to Kenema and Bo show lower rates of delay. Higher rates (sometimes more than 50% of all responses) are found in several more distant villages such as Fogbo in Kori chiefdom and Mapuma in Koya chiefdom

The present report should be read in conjunction with the earlier report for villages in Moyamba District.

TABLE 1: Q. What do you understand to be the causes of this sickness [EVD]?

(Peri Fefewagu, Gaura chiefdom, Kenema District, n=30, 12/12/2014)

1. **EATING OF BUSH MEAT** (BATS, MONKEYS, RATS), **TOUCHING OF INFECTED PERSONS**, EXCHANGE OF FOOD WITH INFECTED PERSONS, NOT WORSHIPPING GOD.
2. ACCORDING TO WHAT PEOPLE SAY, **EATING OF BUSH MEAT**, **TOUCHING INFECTED PERSONS**.
3. **EATING OF BUSH MEAT**, RAW FRUIT, **TOUCHING OF PEOPLE**, SPRAYING HOUSES WITH HIGHLY CONCENTRATED CHLORINE.
4. THROUGH **BODY TO BODY CONTACT**, LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISEASE, NOT ACCEPTING THE FACT THAT THE DISEASE IS REAL.
5. **EATING OF BUSH MEAT** (BATS, MONKEYS,), **TOUCHING OF INFECTED PERSONS**, VIOLATING OF BYE-LAWS ON EBOLA, TOO MUCH SPRAYING OF CHLORINE.
6. **EATING OF BUSH MEAT** (BATS, BUSH PIG, CHIMPANZEES).
7. **EATING OF BUSH MEAT** (BATS, MONKEYS, BUSH PIG).
8. **EATING OF BUSH ANIMALS**.
9. **EATING OF BUSH MEAT**.
10. **EATING OF DEAD BUSH MEAT** (MONKEYS).
11. **EATING OF BUSH ANIMALS** (BATS, SNAKES, SNAIL).
12. UNSAFE SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH WOMEN, **EATING OF DEAD ANIMALS**.
13. **EATING OF BUSH ANIMALS** AND FRUITS PARTLY EATEN BY ANIMALS, DRINKING UNCLEAN WATER.
14. **EATING OF BUSH ANIMALS** (MONKEYS, BATS, CHIMPANZEES).
15. **EATING OF DEAD ANIMALS**, BIRDS AND RATS.
16. **EATING OF BUSH ANIMALS** (MONKEYS, BATS, CHIMPANZEES).
17. **EATING OF BUSH MEAT** (MONKEYS, CHIMPANZEES), EATING OF FRUIT PARTLY EATEN BY BATS.
18. **TOUCHING OF INFECTED PERSONS**.
19. THROUGH **CONTACT WITH BODY FLUIDS FROM INFECTED PERSONS**.
20. **EATING OF BUSH ANIMALS** (MONKEYS, BATS, CHIMPANZEES).
21. ACCOMMODATING OF STRANGERS, TRAVELLING FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER, **EATING OF BUSH MEAT** (CHIMPANZEES, MONKEYS, BATS).
22. **EATING OF FOOD PARTLY EATEN BY ANIMALS**, DENIAL OF THE DISEASE.
23. **EATING OF BUSH MEAT** (CHIMPANZEES, MONKEYS, BATS) AND CONTACT WITH THEIR BLOOD, TRAVELLING TO INFECTED AREAS.
24. **EATING OF BUSH MEAT** (MONKEYS, CHIMPANZEES), TRAVELLING TO OTHER VILLAGES, DENIAL OF THE DISEASE.
25. FROM GOD.
26. THROUGH **BODY TO BODY CONTACT**, **WASHING OF CORPSES**, SHARING FOOD WITH INFECTED PERSONS.
27. THROUGH **BODY TO BODY CONTACT**, EATING WITH INFECTED PERSONS, **EATING OF BUSH MEAT** (BATS, MONKEYS).
28. **EATING OF BUSH MEAT** (BATS, MONKEYS), **WASHING OF CORPSES**, TRAVELLING FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER.
29. THROUGH **BODY TO BODY CONTACT**, **EATING OF BUSH MEAT**, **WASHING OF CORPSES**.
30. **EATING OF BUSH ANIMALS** (BATS, MONKEYS), **TOUCHING INFECTED PERSONS**.

Analysis: Bush meat = 24, body contact/touching = 11, washing corpses = 3

TABLE 2: Q. What is your own idea about how this disease [EVD] spreads? (Peri Fefewagu, Gaura chiefdom, Kenema District, n=30, 12/12/2014)

1. NO IDEA BUT WE BELIEVE THAT THE CHLORINE THEY SPREAD INFECTS PEOPLE.
2. GOD IS RESPONSIBLE, GOVERNMENT DID NOT INTERVENE QUICKLY, LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISEASE.
3. VIOLATING THE BYE-LAWS ON EBOLA, FREQUENT TRAVELLING TO PLACES, GOVERNMENT DELAY IN CLOSING OF BORDERS.
4. VIOLATING THE BYE-LAWS ON EBOLA, FREQUENT TRAVELLING TO PLACES, GOVERNMENT DELAY IN CLOSING OF BORDERS, TOO MUCH USE OF CHLORINE.
5. SPRAYING OF HIGHLY CONCENTRATED CHLORINE, DENIAL OF THE FACT THAT EBOLA IS REAL.
6. **THROUGH CONTACT WITH BODY FLUIDS FROM INFECTED PERSONS, THROUGH SEX.**
7. **TOUCHING OF INFECTED PERSONS, WASHING CORPSE OF INFECTED PERSONS.**
8. **THROUGH TOUCHING AND WASHING OF INFECTED PERSONS.**
9. **TOUCHING OF INFECTED PERSONS, EATING OF BUSH MEAT AND FOOD PARTLY EATEN BY ANIMALS.**
10. **THROUGH TOUCHING AND WASHING OF INFECTED PERSONS.**
11. **EATING OF BUSH ANIMALS, DISAGREEMENT WITH ONE ANOTHER ON THE BYE-LAWS ON EBOLA.**
12. SYMPTOMS ARE NOT EASILY NOTIFED, NO HEALTH CENTRE TO PROVE WHO IS POSITIVE.
13. POOR TREATMENT OF INFECTED PERSON, USE OF HIGHLY CONCENTRATED CHLORINE.
14. **THROUGH CONTACT WITH INFECTED PERSONS, SEXUAL CONTACT WITH DIFFERENT PEOPLE, PUBLIC GATHERINGS.**
15. VIOLATING BYE-LAWS ON EBOLA, SLEEPING IN A ROOM OF DECEASED EBOLA VICTIMS.
16. **TOUCHING INFECTED PERSONS, CONTACT WITH BODY FLUIDS FROM INFECTED PERSONS.**
17. **TOUCHING INFECTED PERSONS, CONTACT WITH BODY FUILDS FROM INFECTED PERSONS, WASHING CORPSES OF INFECTED PERSONS.**
18. **THROUGH CONTACT WITH INFECTED PERSONS, CONTACT WITH BODY FLUIDS FROM INFECTED PERSONS, WASHING CORPSES OF INFECTED PERSONS.**
19. **TOUCHING INFECTED PERSONS, CONTACT WITH BODY FUILDS FROM INFECTED PERSONS.**
20. **THROUGH CONTACT WITH INFECTED PERSONS, CONTACT WITH BODY FLUIDS FROM INFECTED PERSONS, EATING OF FUITS PARTLY EATEN BY BATS.**
21. ACCOMMODATING OF STRANGERS, DENIAL OF THE FACT THAT EBOLA IS REAL, TRAVELLING TO INFECTED VILLAGES, TOWNS AND COUNTRIES.
22. DENIAL OF THE FACT THAT EBOLA IS REAL, TRAVELLING TO INFECTED VILLAGES, TOWNS AND COUNTRIES, LACK OR NO SENSITIZATION ON EBOLA.
23. **EATING OF BUSH ANIMALS (CHIMPANZEES, MONKEYS, BATS), TRAVELLING FROM ONE VILLAGE TO ANOTHER.**
24. DENIAL OF THE FACT THAT EBOLA IS REAL, LACK OF SENSITIZATION ON EBOLA.
25. FROM GOD.
26. DENIAL OF THE FACT THAT EBOLA IS REAL, LACK OF KNOWLEDGE ON THE DISEASE, LACK OF SPECIALISTS IN THE MEDICAL FIELD.
27. **THROUGH BODY TO BODY CONTACT, LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF THE DISEASE, EATING OF BUSH MEAT.**
28. **THROUGH BODY TO BODY CONTACT, LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF THE DISEASE, SHARING BED WITH INFECTED PERSONS.**
29. LACK OF KNOWLEDGE ON THE DISEASE, LACK OF SPECIALIST IN THE MEDICAL FIELD.
30. **THROUGH BODY TO BODY CONTACT, WASHING OF CORPSES**

Analysis: Bush meat = 4, body contact/touching = 14, washing corpses = 4

TABLE 3: Q. What do you understand to be the cause of this sickness [EVD]? (Sanola, Gaura chiefdom, Kenema District, n=22, 8/12/2014)

1. **Eating bush meat** such as bats and monkeys
2. **Eating rotten bush meat**
3. **Bats, monkeys, any kind of animal**
4. Visiting sick people, travelling from one place to another
5. **Eating bushmeat, touching sick person suffering form Ebola**
6. **Monkeys**
7. **Body contact**, hand shaking (greeting) **washing of corpse, eating bush animals**
8. **Contact with infected person's blood**, urine, vomit, **dead body** of an Ebola patient
9. **Contact with sick person's vomit, urine, blood**
10. According to news, **touching of infected people, eating bush meat**
11. **Body contact**, eating with infected persons, **washing dead bodies** of the infected person
12. **Eating bush animals like monkey and bat, touching a person suffering from Ebola**
13. **Touching dead body**, sexual intercourse with infected person, shaking hands
14. **Body contact**, God is responsible for sickness, **eating bush animals**, visiting other people
15. No Answer
16. **Bat, monkey, chimpanzee**
17. **Body contact, don't bury dead person, don't wash dead person**
18. **Touching dead body, burying dead body, body contact**
19. **Eating bush meat, burying dead bodies**, visiting other people
20. **Eating bush meat**, using poor toilet, eating dirty food
21. **Eating monkeys, bats, touching sick people** affected by Ebola
22. **Body contact**, visiting **burial ceremonies**, accommodating strangers

Analysis: Bush meat = 13, body contact/touching = 10, washing corpses/burial = 8

TABLE 4: Q. What is your own idea about how this disease [EVD] spreads?

(Sanola, Gaura chiefdom, Kenema District, n=22, 8/12/2014)

1. Ebola spreads through **touching** a person affected with it, and eating with him/her
2. It is the work of God who made us and takes our life
3. Paying visit to infected relatives, playing with one another
4. Treating sick people at home, **body contact**
5. **Physical contact** with an infected person
6. Travelling from place to place, **body contact** with infected person
7. Delay in reporting sick people, not using protective gloves
8. When you **contact an infected person**, you **wash dead body** of an Ebola patient
9. **Contact with the patient, dead bodies of patients, contacting their urine, blood and vomit**
10. There was bye-law during the first few months of the outbreak. We had no knowledge about the disease
11. God is responsible for the spread. We lacked knowledge about disease in the first few months
12. **Touching** a person suffering from Ebola
13. **Body contact**, meeting, travelling, **eating bush meat**
14. We had no idea about this disease before. **They said there are no treatments, therefore nobody went for treatment at the clinic, so it spread through touching infected persons, washing dead bodies**
15. **Body contact**, will of God, gathering together, travelling
16. When you disobey the bye-laws [*announced*] on radio, when three people sit on top of one [okada] bike
17. **Touching sick people, eating bush animals, burying** dead people
18. **Touching dead body**
19. People were not accepting the fact that Ebola is real. They paid visits to sick people, and **took care of dead people**
20. Not keeping sick people at home, **body contact**
21. **Touching a person suffering from the disease, washing a person who has died of Ebola**
22. **Taking part in burial of infected persons, sympathizing with relatives infected with Ebola by touch**

Analysis: Bush meat = 2, body contact = 12, washing corpses/burial = 8

**TABLE 5: Peri Fefwagu, Gaura chiefdom, Kenema District
questions and comments from 27 interviewees, 12.12.2014**

1. **WHAT CAN WE DO TO STOP THE SPREAD OF THIS DISEASE? (2) CAN EBOLA BE TREATED IN THE HOSPITAL?**
2. **WHEN DO YOU THINK GOVERNMENT WILL RE-OPEN SCHOOLS? (2) WHY DID GOVERNMENT QUARANTINE PEOPLE WITHOUT PROVIDING FOOD FOR THEM?**
3. **WHY IS IT THAT THE PEOPLE OF LIBERIA HAVE CONTROLLED THE SPREAD OF EBOLA BUT THE DISEASE IS STILL AFFECTING US HERE? (2) GOVERNMENT SHOULD DO ALL IN THEIR POWER TO STOP THE SPREAD OF THIS DISEASE.**
4. **WHY IS IT THAT THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH QUARANTINED VILLAGE WITHOUT PROVIDING FOOD FOR US? (2) ARE THERE PLANS TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO EBOLA AFFECTED FAMILIES?**
5. **WHEN WILL EBOLA BE ERADICATED? (2) WHEN WILL LIFE BECOME TO NORMAL?**
6. **WE WERE QUARANTINED FOR ONE MONTH, STOPPING US GOING TO FARMS. NOW ANIMALS HAVE DESTROYED OUR CROPS. HOW DOES GOVERNMENT EXPECT US TO SURVIVE?**
7. **WHEN WILL EBOLA BE ERADICATED? (2) WHEN WILL SCHOOLS BE OPENED?(3) WHY HAVE THEY QUARANTINED KENEMA AND NOT THE NORTHERN PROVINCE WITH INFECTED CASES ALSO? (4) WHY DOES GOVERNMENT QUARANTINE PEOPLE WITHOUT GIVING THEM FOOD?**
8. **GOVERNMENT SHOULD REALIZE THAT POVERTY AND ILLITERACY ARE VERY HGH IN THE COUNTRY, SO THEY SHOULD TRY AND ERADICATE THIS DISEASE QUICKLY.**
9. **WE WANT SCHOOLS TO BE OPENED SOONEST, GOVERNMENT TO SUPPLY US BASIC COMMODITIES.**
10. **WHY DO THEY SPRAY THE DEAD WITH CHLORINE EVEN IN THE GRAVE? IS CHLORINE A MEDICINE OR POISON?**
11. **THE WAY IN WHICH THE DISTRIBUTION OF SUPPLY FOR THE QUARANTINED PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE WAS DONE WAS NOT FAIR; RELATIVES OF VICTIMS DID NOT GET ANY SUPPLY.**
12. **WHEN WILL EBOLA BE ERADICATED? IF IT CONTINUES UNTIL RAINY SEASON THERE WILL BE NO FOOD.**
13. **WHY ARE PEOPLE STILL DYING EVEN WHEN THERE IS TREATMENT FOR EBOLA?**
14. **IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO AS LOCALS TO ERADICATE EBOLA? (2) WHEN SPECIFICALLY WILL EBOLA BE ERADICATED?**
15. **DOES THIS PROJECT HAVE ANY PLAN OF ASSISTING THE FAMILIES OF EBOLA VICTIMS WHO DIED DURING THIS CRISIS?**
16. **IS THERE A SPECIFIC TIME THAT EBOLA WILL BE ERADICATED?**
17. **WHAT DO WE DO NOW SINCE DISEASES LIKE DIARRHOEA AND FEVER ARE TRANSFERRED TO KENEMA WIYHOUT TREATING THEM? (2) THE GOVERNMENT INITIALLY VOWED TO SUPPORT ANY EBOLA SURVIVOR. OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS SURVIVED THIS SICKNESS, [BUT] WE HAVE NOT SEEN ANY ASSISTANCE FROM GOVERNMENT, WHAT DO WE DO?**
18. **SINCE WE WERE QUARANTINED, THE GOVERNMENT/NGO's SUPPLIED ONLY QUARTER OF THE VILLAGE AND I WAS NOT FORTUNATE TO GET. MY CHILDREN WHO TAKE CARE OF ME FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO PROVIDE FOR ME. I WANT GOVERNMENT/NGO's TO [RE]CONSIDER AND SUPPLY THE WHOLE VILLIAGE.**
19. **LET THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLY US FOOD SINCE WE ARE QUARANTINED. WE WANT OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL. WE PRAY THAT EBOLA BE ERADICATED SOONEST.**
20. **SINCE THEY QUARANTINED US, WE HAVE NOT BEEN SUPPLIED FOOD FROM GOVERNMENT OR NGO's. WE WANT OUR CHILDREN TO GO BACK TO SCHOOL. I'M POOR AND DON'T HAVE [FOOD] TO EAT UNLESS PEOPLE HELP.**
21. **WE WANT GOVERNMENT TO SEND US MONEY BECAUSE WE ARE POOR IN THIS VILLAGE; I DON'T COOK EVERYDAY BECAUSE I HAVE NO MONEY, MY HUSBAND IS DEAD. I NEED HELP.**
22. **I WANT GOVERNMENT/NGO's TO SUPPLY US FOOD SINCE WE ARE QUARANTINED. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING AT ALL. NO CLOTHES OR HOUSEHOLD PROPERTIES. I WANT GOVERNMENT TO HELP ME.**
23. **WHAT DO GOVERNMENT INTEND TO DO [ABOUT] SCHOOLING FOR OUR CHILDREN? (2) WE ARE PLEADING TO GOVERNMENT FOR GOOD ROADS, HEALTH CENTRES IN OUR COMMUNITY.**
24. **I'M A SURVIVOR, I LOST MY DAUGHTER FROM THIS DISEASE LEAVING SIX CHILDREN BEHIND, I NEED URGENT HELP. (2) WHAT ARE THESE QUESTIONS ABOUT? (3) IF SOMEONE IS SICK AND I CALL, WILL THEY HELP US?**
25. **WE ARE PRAYING THAT EBOLA BE ERADICATED SOONEST.**
26. **I'M ONE OF THE SURVIVORS, THEY PROMISED TO SUPPLY ME BUT UP UNTIL NOW I'VE RECEIVED NOTHING, WHY? (2) MY PROPERTIES WERE SET ON FIRE [BURNT] AND NOW I HAVE NOTHING. HOW DOES THE GOVERNMENT WANT ME TO SURVIVE?**
27. **WHAT IS THIS INTERVIEW ABOUT? (2) WE ARE JUST FROM QUARANTINE, WHAT HAS THE GOVERNMENT FOR US? (3) IS THERE ANY FUTURE BENEFIT FOR US AFTER THIS INTERVIEW?**

**TABLE 6: Sanola, Gaura chiefdom, Kenema District
questions and comments from 22 interviewees, 8.12.2014**

1. Let there be free health care for old people
2. What should be the preventive measures for any other epidemic in future
3. **When are schools going to reopen?** They say there is no treatment for Ebola; why do you [now] want people to go for treatment in the hospital?
4. Why did the authorities allow in the first place for Ebola to come to Sierra Leone before taking corrective measures? Why our borders not closed and wait until the disease was finally over?
5. **Since we are far away from Kenema will you be able to permit us and also provide some PPE that will enable us to bury our dead instead of waiting for the burial team from Kenema?**
6. Have they discovered the medicine for treating Ebola?
7. Are there medicines or treatments in this country or in the whole world for Ebola? **When are we expecting Ebola outbreak to stop? What time are we [start] burying dead body in this country properly**
8. **Do you now have treatment for Ebola available at the hospital? At the beginning they said there was no treatment.** When do we expect this Ebola saga to end?
9. **What time [will] government allow people to travel? When will the government re-open schools for our children to go to school? When will the Ebola outbreak stop?**
10. I wonder if this Ebola virus will be killed?
11. She is pleading to God that this sickness finishes in this part of our beloved country
12. **She asked if at this present moment her relative happens to fall sick does she have the right to pay a visit?**
13. Through the outbreak of Ebola there is no peace in the country, it has also affected the educational system for our younger ones
14. How can we prevent [infecting] ourselves? When will Ebola be totally wiped off?
15. Does the government have any help for us when it has told us not to travel anywhere in the country?

Village	Chiefdom	District	Wait	Never wait	n =
1. Gumahun-Faama	Badia	Bo	0	25	25
2. Baima	Gbo	Bo	3	27	30
3. Mogibisi	Gbo	Bo	4	21	25
4. Mokebie	Gbo	Bo	0	22	22
5. Fengehun	Kakua	Bo	1	28	29
6. Gbumbeh	Kakua	Bo	2	28	30
7. Sarguehun	Kakua	Bo	4	24	28
8. Gbangba	Selenga	Bo	1	29	30
9. Bawuya	Kori	Moyamba	18	7	25
10. Fogbo	Kori	Moyamba	19	8	27*
11. Moyamba Junction	Fakuniya	Moyamba	16	14	30
12. Njagbema	Kamajei	Moyamba	17	13	30
13. Mobaiwa	Kamajei	Moyamba	15	15	30
14. Mogbuama	Kamajei	Moyamba	17	13	30
15. Foindu	Yoni	Tonkolili	9	21	30
16. Masengbeh	Yoni	Tonkolili	22	8	30
17. Maraka	Yoni	Tonkolili	22	6	28
18. Bo	Gaura	Kenema	1	17	18
19. Jagbema	Gaura	Kenema	5	25	30
20. Njala	Gaura	Kenema	1	25	26
21. Peri Fefewahun	Gaura	Kenema	8	22	30
22. Sanola	Gaura	Kenema	4	18	22
23. Senehun Buima	Gaura	Kenema	7	22	29
24. Komende-Luyama	Lower Bambara	Kenema	3	22	25
25. Mapuma	Koya	Kenema	13	17	30
26. Belebu	Tunkia	Kenema	11	19	30
TOTAL			223	496	719
Percent			31.02%	68.98%	100%

* 3 missing values

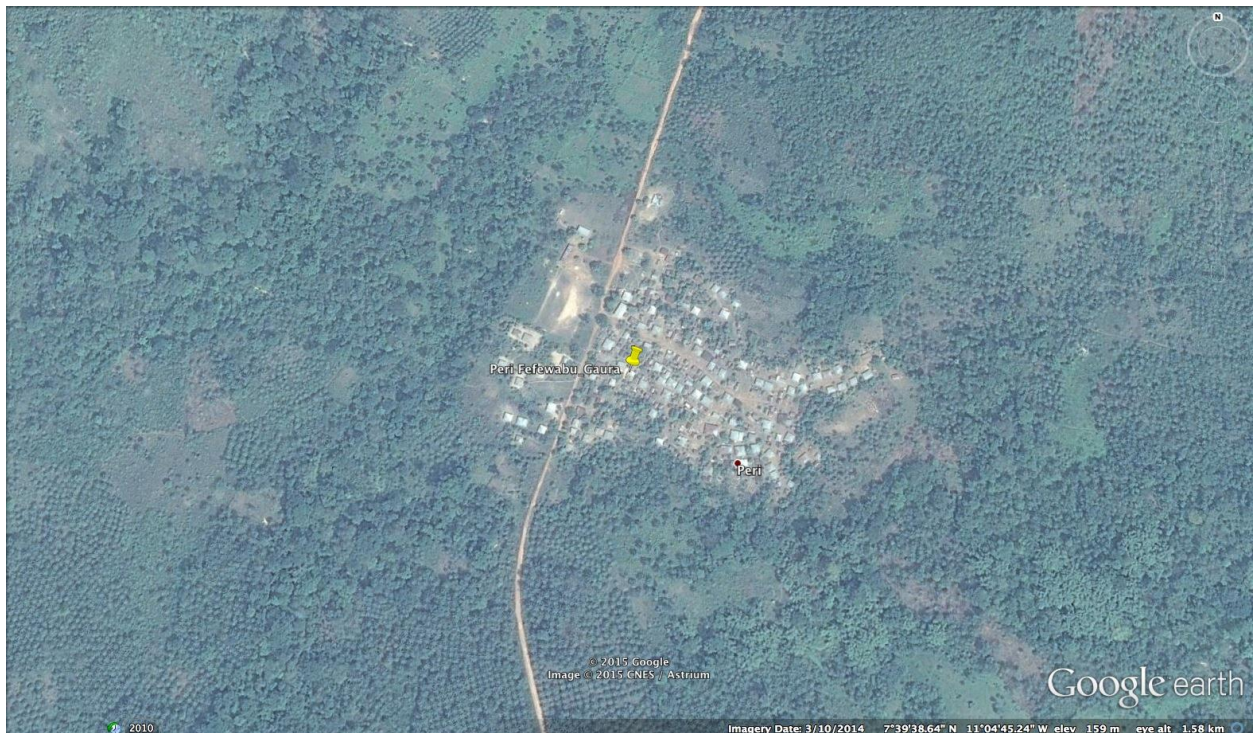
TABLE 7: interviewees reporting decisions whether or not to wait before seeking treatment for a sick villager (typical waiting times = 1-3 days)

APPENDIX: FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW RESULTS

PERRI FEFEWABU, GAURA CHIEFDOM, KENEMA DISTRICT (16/12/2014)

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NJALA UNIVERSITY 24th January 2015



Peri Fefewabu is a medium-sized village on the untarred road to the Liberian border, some 25 miles south of Kenema. Thirteen people died in an outbreak of EVD in Peri Fefewabu. The data for the elders' focus group are still being entered.

FOCUS GROUP, Village: PERI FEFEWABU, Gaura, Facilitator?, Date: 16/12/2014, Group: WOMEN

No	Card NO	Age	Status	Sex	Questions	Responses
1	Ba1	65	Sectional societal head	F	What serious sicknesses have been experienced in this village in the past 12 months?	Fever
2	Bb1	50	Women's Leader	F	What serious sicknesses have been experienced in this village in the past 12 months?	Ebola
3	Bc1	45	women's quarter head	F	What serious sicknesses have been experienced in this village in the past 12 months?	Malaria
4	Bd1	50	Village elder	F	What serious sicknesses have been experienced in this village in the past 12 months?	Headache and fever
5	Be1	56	Village elder	F	Has anyone died of fever in this village?	Nobody has died of fever in this village
6	Bc2		Elder woman	F	What are the symptoms of fever?	Increase in body temperature
7	Bf1	43	Village elder	F	What are the symptoms of fever?	Shivering (trembling)
8	Bb2		Elder	F	What are the symptoms of fever?	Pain in the joint.
9	Bg1	56	Village Elder	F	What are the symptoms of fever?	Pain in the waist bone and it rises into your head
10	Bh1	41	Village elder	F	What are the symptoms of fever?	Blistered lips
11	Bi1	43	Village elder	F	What are the symptoms of fever?	Loss of taste
12	Bc3		Village Elder	F	What are the treatments for fever?	The fruit of <i>kowe</i> is harvested and boiled for frequent drinking.
13	Bb3		Elder	F	What are the treatments for fever?	Boil lemon grass and <i>tombi</i> leaf and drink frequently
14	Bc4		Elder woman	F	How do you prevent fever?	Don't expose yourself to too much cold
15	Bb4		Elder woman	F	Have you heard about Ebola in this town?	Yes, we heard about it from the radio that it has affected people in Kailahun
16	Bc5		Elderly woman	F	Has anybody been infected in this village?	Yes, There have been actual cases in this town, 17 people were infected, 13 died and 4 survived. Below is a list of those infected and killed by Ebola: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LG, f., 50, TBA, died 2. PM, m., 40, village elder, died

						<p>3. JS, f., 27, youth, died 4. JK, f., 35, TA, died 5. MM, f., 29, youth, died 6. ZS, f., -8month-child-died 7. KK, f., 17, pupil, died 8. AM, m., 37, youth, died 9. YA, f., 17 months –child –died 10. UK, f., 7months-child-died 11. ML, f., -2weeks-child-died 12. GL, f., -3yrs-child-died 13. MS, f., -2weeks-child-died 14. JD, m., 22, youth, survived 15. MM, m., 19, yout, survived 16. MK, m., 35, youth, survived 17. LS, m., 20, pupil, survived</p> <p>NOTE: LG ate bulgur and experienced stomach pain, in the process she drank paracetamol and ORS, but the fever, diarrhea and headache persisted until day 4 when she died. The burial team came to collect her sample and buried her in the town. Only six people were buried by the burial team from Kenema</p>
17	Ba3		Elderly women	F	How is Ebola transmitted?	Coming in contact with an Ebola patient
18	Bb5		Elderly women	F	How is Ebola transmitted?	Eating animals like monkey, bush pig, chimpanzee, and bats
19	Bd2		Elderly women	F	How is Ebola transmitted?	Through blood contact
20	Bc6		Elderly women	F	How is Ebola transmitted?	Visiting infected person
21	Ba4		Elderly women	F	How is Ebola transmitted?	Eating ruminants and leftover food of an infected person
22	Bb6		Elderly women	F	How is Ebola transmitted?	Contacting vomit of an infected person
21	Be2		Elderly women	F	How is Ebola transmitted?	Shaking the hands of an infected person
22	Bd3		Elderly women	F	How is Ebola transmitted?	Travelling from one village to the other
23	Bf1	60	Elder	F	How will you treat a person infected with Ebola?	An Ebola patient can be given plenty of jelly water [<i>coconut liquid</i>] and O.R.S before taking that person to hospital
24	Bg2		Elder	F	How can we prevent Ebola?	By running away from infected area or community
25	Bf2		Elder		How can we prevent Ebola?	By upholding village bye-laws
26	Bd4		Elder		How can we prevent Ebola?	By washing your hand with chlorine
27	Be2		Elder		How can we prevent Ebola?	Avoid eating bush meat
28	Bh2	60	Elder	F	How can we prevent Ebola?	By adopting the rule of self-quarantine (SLPP AND APC); SLPP = Sit, Lef Pass Pass APC = Avoid Peoples Compound
29	Bg3		Elder		If an adult man becomes sick who will care?	?

FOCUS GROUP, Village: PERI FEFWABU, Gaura, Interviewee: Christian Lansana and Wisdom Keifela, Date: 16/12/2014, Group: YOUTH

No	Card No	Age	Status	Sex	Questions	Response
1	Ca1	29	Youth	F	What serious sicknesses have been experienced in this village over the past twelve months?	Ebola
2	Cb1	31	Youth	F	What are the symptoms of Ebola?	High Fever Head Ache Red Eye
3	Cc1	25	Youth	M	What are the symptoms of Ebola?	Frequent stool, vomiting and rash on the body
4	Cd1	35	Councilor	M	What are the symptoms of Ebola?	Dry stomach, weakness in the body
5	Ce1	27	Youth	M	Has there been any active Ebola in this village?	Yes
6	Cf1	37	Youth Leader	M	What are the causes of Ebola?	It is caused by eating bush meat such as baboon, monkey, chimpanzee
7	Cg1	34	Youth	F	What are the causes of Ebola?	Dirty water
8	Ch1	36	Youth	F	What are the causes of Ebola?	Witchcraft, eating animals without blood such as snail
9	Ci1	23	Youth	M	How does Ebola spread?	Use of highly concentrated chlorine
10	Ca2		Youth		How does Ebola spread?	Eating food with infected person, touching sick persons
11	Cj1	28	Youth	M	How does Ebola spread?	Lack of trust in health workers. Casual sexual intercourse
12	Cm1	30	Youth	M	How did you prevent yourself from contracting Ebola?	Drink ORS and coconut jelly water
12	Cn1	38	Youth	M	How did you prevent yourself from contracting Ebola?	Treatment given by Pepper Doctor, drinking herbs such as Moringa, onion (yabas), <i>yumbuyambay</i>
13	Co1	36	Youth	M	What happen if there is no improvement?	Call health workers from Kenema
14	Ce2		Youth		How many people were infected?	17 people were infected.
15	Cp1	35	Youth	F	How many people were infected?	13 people died and these are their names. 1. LG, f., 50 yrs, TBA 2. JK, f., 38 yrs, tba [?]

						<p>3. PM, m [?], 42 yrs, farmer 4. MB, f., 29 yrs, farmer 5. ZS, f., 8 months, child 6. KK, f., 17 yrs, student 7. AM, m., 37 yrs, farmer 8. UK, m., 7 yrs, child 9. YA, f., 17 yrs, school pupil 10. ML, f., 12 yrs, school pupil 11. SL, f., 3 yrs, child 12. MS, f., 2wks, child</p>
16	Cc2		Youth		How many people were buried in the village?	<p>Six people, they include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. YA, f., 17 months, child 2. MS, f., 2 weeks, child 3. JK, f., 38 yrs, TA 4. PM, m., 42 yrs, farmer 5. SL, f., 3yrs, child 6. ML, f., 12 yrs, child
17	Cq1	31	Youth	M	Who buried them?	The burial team from Kenema buried them
18	Cr1	26	Youth	M	How were they buried?	The burial team arrived and went straight into the house where the corpse was laid. They did not invite any one and few minutes later they came with the corpse in the body bag and asked us where to bury the corpse
19	Ch2		Youth		Who dug the grave?	10-12 youths were involved in the digging of the grave
19	Ch2		Youth		Who took the corpse to the cemetery?	The burial team took the corpse to the cemetery and put it into the grave and removed all their burial kits and put them into the grave on top of the corpse as well
20	Ck2		Youth		Did the burial team wash the body?	No. They sprayed the body with highly concentrated chlorine
21	Cs1	32	Youth	M	Who put the soil on the corpse?	The community people (youths)
22	Cf2		Youth		How many people will put the soil on the corpse?	6 people normally put the soil on the corpse
23	Ca3		Youth		Are you satisfied with the burial processes?	No, we are not satisfied with the way they bury our people
24	Co2		Youth		What is your perception about the present burial processes?	The processes are not consistent of our present burial practices, e.g. they don't wash the body, dress the body and pray on the body
25	Cj2		Youth		How many people survived the infection?	<p>4 people survived the infection. They are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MK, m., 35, farmer 2. JD, m., 19, student 3. MM, m., 22, student 4. LS, m., 20, student
26	Co3		Youth		How did the burial team behave when they entered this town?	They put fear into us and they were making threatening remarks. They said we are spraying chlorine so that people will die
27	Ch2		Youth		How did the burial team behave when they entered this town?	The husband of the first lady who died of the disease survived and is still alive, but when they sprayed the chlorine, more people died
28	Ct1	29	Youth	F	Who cares for seriously sick people?	The family members and relatives of the sick person normally take care

29	Cg		Youth		If an adult man becomes sick who will care for him?	The eldest son will care for him
30	Ca4		Youth		If an adult woman become sick who will cares for him?	The eldest daughter of the woman will care for her
31	Cd2		Youth		If a male citizen has no wife who will care for him?	His close friend, relative or the town chief will appoint someone to care for him
32	Cr2		Youth		If a woman citizen has no husband who will care for him?	Her close friend, relative or a person appointed by the women's leader or chief will care for her
33	Cl2		Youth		If a man or woman stranger (<i>hotei</i>) is sick who will care for him /her?	The person who lodges the stranger (<i>hotakei</i> or <i>hotagie</i>) will care for him or her
34			Youth		If the disease can't be cured in the village, what arrangement will they make to send the person to hospital or health center in another location?	
35	Cu1	25	Youth	M	How will the person be transported and how much will it cost?	We will use motor bikes and it will cost Le15,000 from Perri to Joru health center
36	Es2		Youth		Who will make the final decision to carry the sick to the health center?	The chief and family members
37	N2		Youth		Who will determine if the person is a stranger?	The <i>hotakei</i> will decide on carrying the sick person.
38	Cp2		Youth		If there is no money to pay for the sick person, what will happen?	The family member, town's people and the person accommodating the stranger will contribute to pay the money. If the money contributed is not enough, we will pledge the person's plantation or property to pay the money
39	Cc3		Youth		Do you have memories of diseases that affect your animals?	Yes, Newcastle (<i>kpekpe</i>)
40	Cm2		Youth		What are the symptoms of Newcastle?	Chicken defecate white faeces, stand erect and are not active
41	Cy1	31	Youth	M	What causes Newcastle?	Dustbin
42	Co4		Youth		What causes Newcastle?	Cold weather
43	Cs3		Youth		How does its spread?	By mating
44	Cg3		Youth		How do you prevent chicken from contracting Newcastle?	We prevent the sick one from coming in contact with healthy one
45	Ct2		Youth		How do you treat a cock infected with Newcastle Disease?	We soak cigarette filters in water and allow them drink the water
46	Cj3		Youth		What is the state of the person two days before death?	The person will be in a state of deep unconsciousness
47	Cj3		Youth		Who will clean the person in this state of unconsciousness?	Two family members will sit by the person and change her when she is messy or needs a clean up
48	Cb3		Youth		Who cares for their medications and how are they treated?	The family members take care of their medications and they soak clothes in cold or lukewarm water and place it on their body

49	Cu2		Youth		How do you feed the sick persons?	Three people will put the persons head up with their hands underneath it and drop water in this or her throat and feed with liquid food e.g. pap
50	Cn3		Youth		How is the sick dressed?	The person will sit at the back of the sick person and two people will put clothes on her. They will then lay her on the bed and cover her with blanket or clothes
51	Ca5		Youth		Two days after death what happens to the dead?	The body is laid straight and side by the sides. A family member of elder person in the community will close the eye or mouth if opened and the body is moved from bed to mat on the floor by three persons and the body covered with cloth.
54	Cb4		Youth		How do you wash dead bodies?	Water is warmed by two or three women and the washing place is prepared at the back of the house surrounded by tarpaulin
55	Cx1	42	Youth	M	How do you wash dead bodies?	Two pairs of gloves made from white satin are worn by two people to wash the body, while two people pour water on the dead body
56	Cs4		Youth		How do you dress the corpse?	The body is removed from the flat material by 4 people and is placed on dry mat by 4 people. Those who wash the body dress it and the best suit is won on the body and the whole body is covered with white satin and tied in 3 places, the leg, hand and neck. The body is then sprayed with perfume and the body brought into the house
57	Cq4		Youth		How do you dress the corpse?	Three young men take the body to the house and the body is laid in a wooden coffin. The body is then laid in the parlor of the house and then handed over to the religious leader (pastor or Imam)
58	Cu3		Youth		What happens when the body is taken to the Church?	The body is carried to the church by 6 people and is placed before the pulpit. Two people stand at the head and foot part of the coffin until the end of prayer. The body is then carried to the gravesite by 6 people
59	Cj4		Youth		What happen when the body is taken to the Mosque?	The body is taken to the mosque by 6 people and is placed outside the mosque. Prayer are offered and the body taken to the gravesite
60	Cy2		Youth		How many people dig the grave?	The grave is dug by many people, using cutlasses, pick-axes and shovels. The place is identified by grave-diggers and is cleared by brushing. The earth is dug to [a suitable] depth and inside is shaped by one person
61	Cc4		Youth		What happen when the body is transported to the grave site?	The body is taken to the grave site by 6 people, cloth is removed from the coffin by the last child. A final farewell message is made by the wife, husband, children or member of the family The body is carried and laid at the mouth of the grave by 4 people. Coffin is carried by to the mosque by two people. If the deceased is a Muslim, the body is lowered in the grave by 3 people and 3 imams in the grave receive the body and lay it properly on the side, satin is removed from the face and rope is untied by the head imams. Sticks are laid across the grave by one person and leaves placed on the sticks by 3 people. The soil is returned,

						starting with the first top soil that was removed and later the bottom soil at the top by five people. The prayers are performed by the religious leader. All move away from the grave yard. One bucket of water is placed at the cemetery gate by a woman and all who went to the grave should wash their feet and hands after burial
62	Cw2		Youth		Why did the last child remove the cloth from the coffin?	This is for the people to know he or she is the last child. The cloth is taken and washed by an elderly woman. The cloth is dried and given to the child as his or her personal property
63	Cx3		Youth		What are the foreseen constraints if a rescue center is built in your town, section or chieftdom?	Poor road net (Cq3), relief features such as hilly terrain (Ca6), long distance to the nearest rescue center (Cp3), vehicle to convey the victim (Cm1), provision of logistics and equipment
					What are the possible solutions to the above constraints?	Provisions of logistics and equipment at the rescue center (Cl3), accessibility to the rescue center (Cf4), total involvement of beneficiaries to work at the rescue center (Ck3), provision of vehicle to convey sick people (Cw3), provision of incentives

APPENDIX: FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW RESULTS

KOMENDE LUYAMA, LOWER BAMBARA CHIEFDOM, KENEMA DISTRICT (8/12/2014)

Paul Richards, Joseph Amara, Alfred Mokuwa, Esther Mokuwa, Roland Suluku, and team,

NJALA UNIVERSITY 24th January 2015



Komende Luyama is a large village located on a branch road leading to the main road from Kenema to Daru. It had a EVD outbreak in which 13 people died, and attracted considerable attention from the authorities and NGOs due to accessibility from Kenema. It is representative, in the sample, of communities where quarantine has been actively maintained, and where community support activities and Ebola awareness mobilization campaigns have been undertaken.

FOCUS GROUP, Village: KOMENDE LUYAMA, Lower Bambara, 8th December 2014, Group: MALE ELDERS

NO	QUESTION	AGE Yrs.	MALE ELDERS (comments)	CONCLUSION
1	What are the infectious diseases that affect your community?	52	Aa1 - Many diseases affect our community. Last month we lost one of our relatives to chickenpox [<i>possibly measles</i>]	
2	Do you know about PPR?	67	Ab1 - Town chief, PPR has not affected our livestock	
3	What sicknesses seriously affected you in the last 12 months?	40	Ac1 - Imam: the sickness that has affected us most is diarrhea (<i>agbo abalie</i>)	
4		52	Ad1 - Malaria is the most common sickness in this community and affects the majority of the people.	Malaria is a serious issue
5		41	Ac2 - Ebola is the disease currently at hand and we are confused how people can be cured of the disease.	
6		52	Ab3 - My son died of Ebola and I was not allowed to pass and see him.	Prevented from going to Kenema at the checkpoint
7	Did anyone [else] die of measles/chickenpox [<i>see 1 above</i>]?		Aa2 [?] Yes – VK, m., 45 yrs. old died and was buried in the town cemetery. MJ, m., also died, but the town speaker's daughter survived	Measles/chickenpox killed a lot of people
8	How was the town speaker's daughter able to survive?	40	Aa3 - Prayer and immediate hospitalization.	
9	How was the dead body handled?	40	Ac3 - Washed by 3 people. One poured hot water and 2 rubbed soap; all 3 dressed the body.	
10	How does Ebola affect people (symptoms)?	55	Aq1-Diarrhea, tiredness, loss of appetite, sore throat, Head ache, fever, Heart ache, stomach ache and vomiting.	
11	Transmission of Ebola. How many people were infected? How many died and survived? Where were they buried?		Aq2 - 42. 29 deaths, and survivors 13. Two buried in Komende Luyama town cemetery and the rest at Nganyahun junction, Kenema district "epi-center"	JA, f., had long-term stomach pains, and comes every year for treatment. ["Epi-center" is local coinage for an Ebola treatment centre]
12	Mode of transmission		Mrs. JA married in Levuma,	

			Yawei chiefdom, Kailahun district, but was born in Komende Luyama. She long suffered stomach pain and came for annual treatment. She came with [what she and we thought was] the same pain, but this time it was Ebola. A majority of her relatives sympathizing with her contracted the disease, when they went to greet her.	
13	Where were the dead bodies buried?		Aq3 - Only 2 were buried in our own cemetery, but the rest were buried in the "epi-center" in the direction of the wind.	[Speaker thought the wind might be responsible for the spread of the disease.]
14	Have you heard about measles [<i>smallpox</i>]? [There is regular confusion among Mende speakers between <i>smallpox</i> , <i>chickenpox</i> and <i>measles</i>] How many people died?		Ad2 - Yes, 1960-1980. Symptoms: fever, krawkraw [itchy blisters] on the skin, redness of mouth lip and eye An2 - sore throat and loss of appetite; Ae2 - sleeping too much, blindness; Ag1 - deafness of ears Many people died	The imam survived the smallpox/measles attack in the 1960s but says many children died
15	Prevention and treatment of measles [<i>smallpox</i>]		An3 - Drinking and rubbing on your skin honey and omole [<i>local spirit</i>] Ak2 - boiling of konso [<i>pigeon pea</i>] leaf (drink the water, grind the leaf and rub). Al1 - Boil <i>jasui</i> and drink (herb), Ah2 - Drink <i>yumbuyambay</i> Ap2 - drink bamboo wine dreg Al2 - wash with black soap. Ag2 - the infected child is not allowed to interact with the other children. He or she is taken to the farm during the day and sleeps in separate room with mother.	
16	Have you heard about		Ag3 - Yes. Excessive cough	Not more than 10 people were

	TB? Symptoms? Treatment?		without sound A13 - Loss of weight Ap3 - Swollen body Ah3 - Difficulty breathing Am2 - Vomiting with blood Ab3 - Loss of breath when speaking Af2 - Take to hospital for treatment Ap4 Separate toilet and utensils Ac2 - cough in cup or containers and not allowed to put out [spit] cough on the floor An3 - Joint pain	affected
17	What are the diseases that affect goats?		Peste de petits des ruminants (PPR) Af3 - Ectoparasites Ac4 - Diarrhea Ap2 - Mange Aq3 - Poisonous leaf (<i>Njapaa [lit. goat killer]</i>) Al4 - Foot rot Ag4 - Poisonous insect	Not many people rear goats in this village
18	Who takes care of Ebola patients in Luyama?		Aa5 - Older youths in the family take care of sick parent or relatives	In a family, older sons or daughters take care of the father or mother
19	If an adult becomes sick who takes care?		Al4 The adult men and women take care of adult sick people in the village, because they will be able to counsel the sick person	This is still practiced in the town
20	If a societal head or member becomes sick who takes care?		Societal people within the community	
21	Where do they carry sick people when they are unable to get a cure in the village?		Ag5 - We carry them to the hospital	
22	How do you carry sick people?		As3 - By vehicle, Honda and hammock	
23	What will the people do if there is no money to pay for transportation?		AC5 - The whole village will be tasked to contribute money	
24	How can you stop Ebola in your community?		Ad6 - Washing of hands with black soap and ashes 5-6 times a day and every time we use toilet	Compliance with bye-laws. During the outbreak no one was allowed to leave his house to visit another person

			Quarantine of infected person Ae4 – Don't touch anyone AI4 - Avoid public gatherings	
25	Are there rules in the community on Ebola prevention?		As4 - Compliance with by-laws has helped us a lot. Ac5 - Survivors take three month before having sexual contact with their partners (90 days)	That is why no woman is pregnant in this town [<i>or so it was said</i>].
26	How do you go about the burial process in your town?		Af4 - Bereaved family presents a kola nut to the chief about the death of their relative. Chief informs the sanitary officer who will give the go-ahead to bury. The religion of the person will be notified. If it's a Muslim, the elders (men or women) will wash the body and dress it.	Elderly persons from both religions will be called to wash and dress the dead person, not necessarily members of his family.
27	If an adult dies?		Ac6 - The adult elders of that religion will wash the body. If the person is a societal member, the societal members will wash and dress the body Ad7 - Youths are not responsible for washing dead bodies, their main role is to dig the grave, build booths for the night vigil, take message to deceased relatives in nearby villages and to carry the corpse to the grave site and cover the grave. The women will carry water to some point near the grave site and leave it there for the grave diggers to wash their feet and hands after digging the hole An4 - Food will be provided for all those who took part in the burial Ad8 - if a Muslim dies his burial process is handled by the Muslim people	Youths are not normally involved in the washing and dressing of dead bodies. Here the Muslims will dominate the process, but Christian will also take part
28	Who takes or draws the clothes from the		An5 - The last daughter/son is the one who owns the	This process is to provide clothes for the last person in

	mud by the grave?		clothes because the last person is regarded as poor and unable to buy clothes for themselves, so they are given these clothes to drive away poverty. The clothes are drawn and the person runs with it to the waterside or river. The clothes are washed and dried and he or she can then use them, but they do not wash the person in the water	the family because they cannot afford and will not be able to fight for any clothes left behind by the deceased
29	What is the current burial practice adopted by your town?		<p>Ac6 - Nobody in this town is allowed to touch a dead body, be it Ebola or not. Dead bodies are taken care of by burial team</p> <p>Ag6 - nobody is allowed to touch any person whether sick with Ebola or not. We are to call ambulance</p> <p>Aq4 - We want to be trained to bury sick Ebola people because the burial team is not doing anything except to dress the corpse and kick them with their feet into the grave</p> <p>Ae5 - We are not happy with the way the burial teams handle and bury our people. They sometimes kick the corpse into the grave and they are not given enough soil. They treat our people like animals. When the burial team arrives, they go into the house or room alone without any family representative, drag the body out, and swing and throw it into the vehicle with speed</p> <p>Ag7 - At times if a person dies of Ebola it will take more than 3 or 4 days before the burial team arrives</p>	They were not happy with the burial team. They say they do the digging and cover the body themselves, so what is the burial team paid for. So they want to be trained in how to bury their relatives so that their relative will be buried in peace. The Elders were happy with the way the interaction [discussion] went on

			Ac8 - We have realized that the chemicals that are used on these bodies are too harsh and within a month the body in the grave will burn. We are not happy about that	
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FOCUS GROUP, Village: KOMENDE LUYAMA, Lower Bambara, 8th December 2014, Group: FEMALE ELDERS

No	Question No	Age	Elderly Women	Conclusion
1	Sickness		Ba1 - Malaria	
2	What is the proof that the person has malaria?	?	Ba1 - The child's blood was taken and result showed malaria. White eye membrane, pale body, weakness and sweating.	Malaria was reported as a major disease in this town. It is possible that some of the high fever was not actually Ebola, but cases were rushed to Kenema [<i>with little feedback</i>] and quarantine was imposed [<i>making it impossible for villagers to check on their sick relatives</i>]. There may have been cross-infection in Kenema
3	When the person became infected where did they take her?		Ba2 - Child died in Kenema hospital and was brought back to village for burial	
4	Burial, who does what?		Ba3 - Girls are washed by women and men do the burial	
5	Signs of malaria	43	Bb1 - Fever, quietness, wash with cold water, and soon catch fever	So if they could wash the people with hand wrapped in cloth, then maybe it was not Ebola?
6	What were they told was the cause of malaria?		Bb2 - Mosquito	Komende Luyama is a cool, hilly location; is mosquito numerous?
7	What happened to the sick person when they took him to the hospital?		Bb3 - In hospital, they draw our blood and malaria was reported. Gave drugs for 3 days and he recovered	
8	What do they do with the dead body before burial?		Bb4 - Wash the dead body and prepare for burial	
9	Did you use your bare hands?	60	Bc1 - They wrap cloth on their hands and wash the body	
10	What happens to the women after they have dressed the body?	60	Bc2 - The women will stay at home while the men bury the corpse	Since this is a Muslim community, the women are not allowed to go to the burial site; they will have to stay home
11	What other sickness have you experienced in this town?	60	Bc3 - Convulsion, has high fever	
12	Is there any other	60	Bd1 - Yes, lebola [<i>Ebola</i>]. My	

	sickness?	sowei	child died and the family was quarantined, but the grandchild survived. I also saw a wife die, but the husband survived	
13	What was the sign to show the person had Ebola? What happen when people show such signs?		Bd2 - High fever and no drug works for this fever My daughter carried a 2 month pregnancy; Ebola aborted the pregnancy and was reported to the soldiers, but my daughter died and lay in pool of blood	
14	What happens when the sickness gets worse?		Bc4 - Call the ambulance to take her to hospital	
15	What happens when the person is taken to the hospital?		Bf1 - There was no word from the medical people. But when the driver of the ambulance comes [again] the people will ask him and he will say if the person is dead, but they don't hand over the body to the community	Get Ebola death information from ambulance drivers. Possibly, drivers do not give correct information
16	What happened to the victim?		Child was taken to the school and quarantined	
17	How did the town know that the person had died?	25	The ambulance came for the body and we knew that person had died. The quarantine woman who slept with the child contracted the disease and the brother who came from Yawei chieftdom contracted the disease from the sister and also died.	
18	Burial	60+ chief sowei	Be1 - Family called to say they will give us good burial	
19	How good was good?		Be1 - They promised to take photos of the burial process	
20	Prevention of Ebola		Observe the rules: Do not visit another house, suspected cases are immediately quarantined, quarantined people are not allowed to share the same wells and food with unaffected people	
21	Where did the first case of Ebola come from?		Yawei, Kailahun district. The woman had stomach pain. Two days later she died. The bike rider that brought her also died.	
22	Cases of hernia?	45	?? - Mohamed had hernia, but	

			there was no money to take him to Kenema; he died and was buried by the burial team without washing the body	
23	Onchocerciasis		Bg1 - has ulcer, [and] onchocerciasis, was hospitalized, 2 months later contracted Ebola and died	People think he contracted Ebola from the hospital
24	Burial	65	My brother died, was washed with gloves, wrapped in <i>kasanke</i> [shroud] and buried, but women were prevented from going to the burial site. Woman and man when they married are not separated even during death, but the woman was not allowed to witness the burial of the husband. The elder male child took the body and washed it	
25	Why was the woman prevented from sitting on the mat after the death of the husband?		Because of Ebola, but the woman put on a charm and wore a black and white cloth for 40 days and washed at the fringe of the river or swamp (<i>kpete</i>)	People are not allowed to touch and visit each other at home, so [<i>even if she is put</i>] on the mat no-one can visit
26	What happens to the last child when the parents die?	??	Be3 - The cotton cloth or lappa is slightly put under the grave mud, it is drawn with some mud and placed on the head of the last born. He will run to the river and the cloth is washed in the water and hung in the house to dry. The adults will wash themselves	
27	What happen when the body is taken to the grave?		Be4 - One person will enter the grave to receive the body sent down by two people. They will ask all present if deceased has to pay anyone? If someone answers, the family will pay that person the amount owed. This must be settled before the person is buried	Debts have to be repaid. The person entering the grave will have to cover the deceased with stick and cover these with leaves before mud is placed on the leaves. This will prevent mud touching the corpse
28	Who cares for the wife or husband when one of them dies?	42	Bh1 - It is either the husband or wife, but in both cases the children or relatives will be responsible. Any member of the family recognized by relatives or the town	
29	Where are sick cases mainly referred to?	75 sowei	Be5 - To Kenema, by the nurse and they will have to pay for their own transportation. If there	

			is no money, they will borrow from friends	
30	How is the first born buried?		Be6 - The body is laid on a leaf called <i>pomamagbe</i> [<i>Newbouldia laevis</i>] and buried with rags. Men will dig the grave; men bury boys while girls are buried by women. The mother of the first born will put dirt from the dustbin on the child in the grave	
31	What happens to an adult first born at death?		Be7 - He is called <i>Gboglui</i> and is buried the same way as the boy	
32	How many times do wife and husband sit on the mat?		Bl1 - Once	

FOCUS GROUP, Village: KOMENDE LUYAMA, Lower Bambara, 8th December 2014 YOUTH (Male and Female)

NO	Question	Age	Youth	Conclusion
1	Sicknesses you have experienced in this town during this past one year?	12	Ca1 - Malaria	
2	What are the signs of the sicknesses you have mentioned?	22 12	Cj1 - Constipation, blockage of nose, difficulty in breathing. Ca2 - Headache, body and joint pain and cold, dizziness	
3	Causes of these sicknesses?	22	Cj2 - The type of food we eat, carry heavy load on head and don't eat fruits	
4	Have these sicknesses affected any one?	22	Cj3 - Plenty of us	
5	What treatment do you take?	12	Ca3 - Panadol, chloroquine, pain killer Cd1 - Sudrex, cold cap Cb1 - Native medicine such as <i>njasue</i> , <i>yumbuyambay</i> , <i>gbangba</i> and sometimes buy medicine from "pepper doctor" [<i>itinerant quacks</i>].	
6	Has the sickness killed anyone in the village?		Cd2 - No one has died of it Cd3 - Yes, my grandmother name HA, aged 60.	
7	How did you hear about Ebola?	25	Cg1 - Radio	
8	How do people contract this disease?	21,25	Cp1 - eating animals that have the Ebola virus and those in the bush Cl2 - eating animals in the bush and touching people infected with the virus	But that was not the case in Luyama
9	Describe the symptoms of Ebola	21,25	Cz1 - Cold, headache, pain Cg2 - Joint pain and pain in every part of the body	
10	Has anyone been affected?	??	Cz2 -Yes, more than 30 people were infected	
11	How did the other people come in contact with infected person?	25	Cg3 - visited patient in hospital and those who visited contracted the disease	Sympathized with woman long-standing stomach pain
12	What happen after hospitalization?	??	Cl1, Cm1 - The infected woman died in the village hospital Cq1 - was buried in the village commentary and all those who came into contact with her died.	Clinic in the town
13	What did Government do after the death of this woman?	?? 25	Cq2 - Quarantined the people who came into contract with the sick women; 42 were sick and 29 died, but 13 survived. Cg4 - See list of people who died, below	Soldiers came to town, quarantine lifted 4 days

				ago (4/12/14)
14	How do you treat people infected with this disease?		Cr1 - Take person to health center for treatment	
15	Who took care of the sick person?	22	Cj4 - a 40 year old sister	
16	Other sicknesses that affect us in this village?	25	Cg4 - Hernia affects most of us youth	
17	Symptoms of hernia?	??	Cu1 - Stomachache, movement in the stomach like worm, cold, pain in groin (<i>kpewie</i>), vomiting and nausea (<i>ndemalei</i>)	
18	Causes of this sickness?		Cu2 - Carrying heavy loads, hard work and walking long distances	
19	Treatment?		CI3 - take paracetamol, and take person to health center for treatment	
20	Did anyone died of the sickness?		CI4 - Yes, 2 men, MM, age 25, and MK age 40. They were taken to the hospital but it was too late, and they died	
21	Who took care of them?		MM was taken care of by his mother and MK by his sister; both were buried in the normal way	Role of close relatives as carers
22	Do you know about PPR?	28	Cb2 - Yes	
	Signs and symptoms of PPR	28	Cb3 - when animal eats an unwanted plant	Don't know the disease
23	How do you prevent it?	28	Cb4 - Take the animal to the stream and wash it, then rub it with blue.	
24	Have you heard about smallpox?	22	Cf1 - yes, it's a skin infection	
25	Symptoms?	22	Cf2 - Fever, rash with water under it, mouth becomes red and cold sets in	
26	Causes of the disease?	22	Cf3 - we do not know	
27	How do you prevent it?	22	Cf4 - isolation from none infected people	
28	Treatment	22	Cf5 - we grind Konso bean [<i>pigeon pea</i>] leaf and rub on the skin. If no improvement, we take the person to hospital	
29	Did any person die of the sickness?		Cf6 - no	

PEOPLE WHO DIED OF EBOLA IN KOMENDE LUYAMA TOWN (supplied by Cg6)

NAME	GENDER	NAME	GENDER
1. JA	f, 1st victim	14. MB ii	f
2. MM	f	15. SM	f
3. LJ	f	16. MS i	f
4. BF	m	17. AS	m
5. MB i	f	18. SS ii	f
6. SS i	m	19. JM	m
7. SM	m	20. KM	m
8. AA	f	21. JM	m
9. FB	f	22. SS iii	f
10. FA	f	23. MB iii	m
11. MSL	m	24. MS ii	f
12. ML i	m	25. ML ii	m
13. AG	f	26. SS iv	f

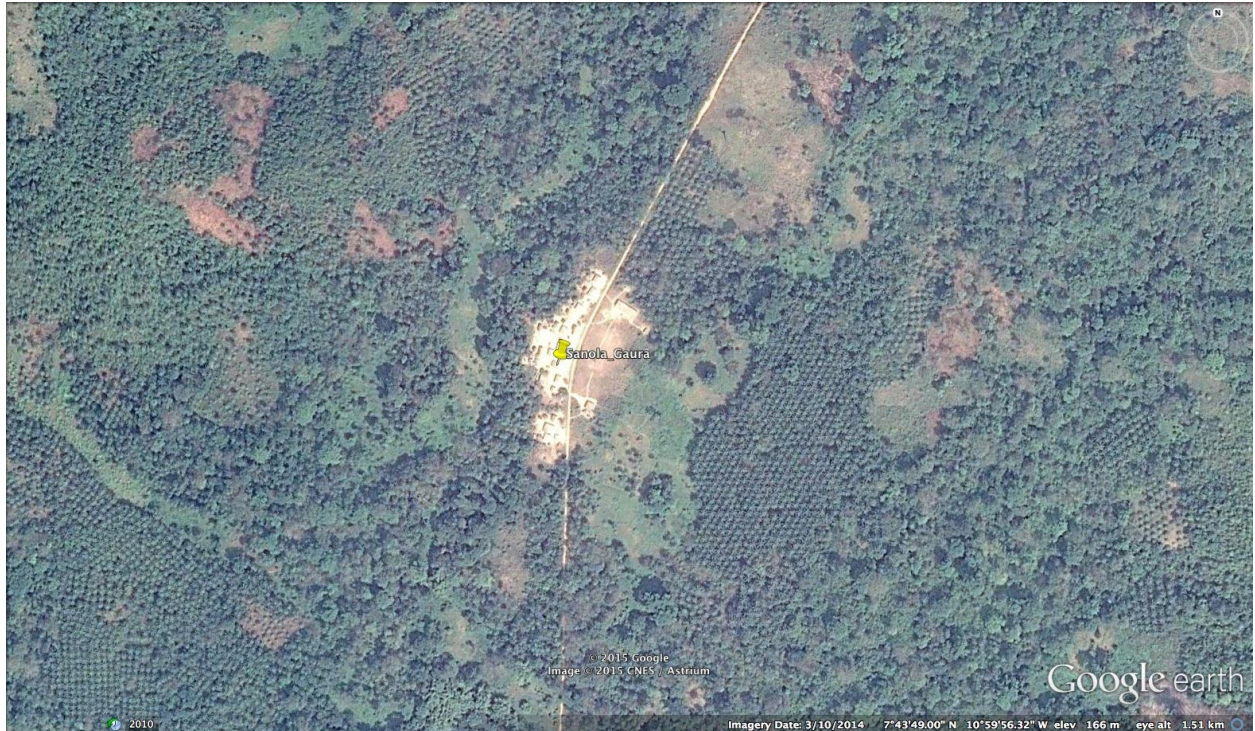
We cannot remember the names of remaining two people.

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APPENDIX: FOCUS GROUP INTERVIEW RESULTS
SANOLA, GAURA CHIEFDOM, KENEMA DISTRICT (8/12/2014)

Paul Richards, Joseph Amara, Alfred Mokuwa, Esther Mokuwa, Roland Suluku, and team,

NJALA UNIVERSITY 25th January 2015



Sanola is a small village on the "road" (an alternately rocky and muddy single-file track) between Joru and Daru, about seven miles north of Joru. It is a settlement within the buffer zone of the Gola Rain Forest National Park. A history of research activities in this settlement over the past three years provides an abundance of background and baseline data. Good local cooperation allowed for prior preparation of the focus group sessions, in which sensitive questions about burials were posed, and frankly answered. The cooperation of the chief and people is highly appreciated, and in particular we acknowledge the contribution of the women of Sanola.

**Focus Group Meeting: SANOLA. Interviewer: Jimmie. B. Tengbeh and Fomba Kanneh,
Date: 8/12/2014, Group: MALE ELDERS**

No	Card No	Age	Status	Sex	Questions	Response
1	Aa1	44	Town Chief	M	What serious sicknesses have you experienced in this village over the past 12 months?	Diarrhea
2	Ab1	60	Elder	M	What are the symptoms of diarrhea?	Frequent stool, weakness in the body and loss of weight. Too much sleeping and tiredness.
3	Ac1	65	Elder	M	What are the signs and symptoms of diarrhea?	Weakness in the body
4	Aa2	60	Elder	M	What are the causes of diarrhea?	Eating with dirty hands
5	Ab2	60	Elder	M	What are the symptoms of diarrhea?	Lack of toilet facilities, uncooked food, high deposit of leaves in dammed water.
6	Aa3	44	Elder	M	How is diarrhea spread?	Flies, keeping dirty water around the environment
7	Ac2	65	Elder	M	How is diarrhea spread?	Mosquito bite
8	Ad1	60	Elder	M	How do you treat people infected with diarrhea?	Eating of raw cassava, drinking of chalk solution, <i>Gbongboneteh</i>
9	Ae1	43	Elder	M	How do you treat people infected with diarrhea?	?
10	Ac3	65	Elder	M	How do you treat people infected with diarrhea?	Take the victim to hospital
11	Ae2	43	Elder	M	Have anybody died of diarrhea in this town?	No
12	Ab3	60	Elder	M	How do we prevent people from contracting diarrhea?	Always keep your environment clean
13	Af1	42	Elder	M	How do we prevent people from contracting diarrhea?	Always cover food. Drink herbs such as <i>gbangaai kojayagboi</i> .
14	Ac4	65	Elder	M	How many people have been affected by diarrhea [<i>last 12 months</i>]?	Three people
15	Ab4	60	Elder	M	Are there diseases or sicknesses that you have experienced in the past 12 months?	Malaria
16	Ab5	60	Elder	M	What are the symptoms?	Increase in body temperature, headache,

						body weakness and joint pain
17	Ag1	46	Elder	M	What are the causes of malaria?	Mosquito bite, eating contaminated food or fruits, or keeping a dirty environment, sexual intercourse with an infected person.
18	Ah1	48	Imam	M	What are the causes of malaria?	Washing with cold water
19	Ail	46	Elder	M	How many people have been infected?	We cannot tell, but many people have been infected
20	Ag2	46	Elder	M	How is malaria spread?	Stepping on the urine of an infected person, Mosquito bite. Using same needle for injection of an infected person
21	Aa4	44	Elder	M	How do you prevent malaria?	Avoid eating too much citrus fruit (oranges) Using ropes prepared from herbs such as <i>duvuwolie</i> and <i>maviwolie</i> as preventive measure, avoid eating cold rice, avoid walking in the swamp early in the morning
22	Ah2	48	Elder	M	How do you treat malaria?	Drinking of herbs such as <i>moringa</i> , <i>yabasi</i> , <i>yumbuyambaa</i> , <i>kojobogboi</i> , <i>guavala</i> , lemon grass, <i>budukwe</i> and bark of some trees. Drinking tablets such as paracetamol, sudrex, stop pain, stop ache, Chinese water
23	Ag3	46	Elder	M	Has anyone died of malaria?	No
24	Aj1	45	Elder	M	Who takes care of sick people?	Family members
25	Ai2	47	Elder	M	Who takes care of an adult man when he falls sick?	The elder son of the man
26	Ak1	52	Elder	M	Who takes care of an adult woman when she falls sick?	The eldest daughter of the woman.
27	Aj2	45	Elder	M	If an older man has no wife, who takes care of him when he falls sick?	His close friends or people appointed by the town chief
28	Ah3	4846	Elder	M	If an older woman has no husband who takes care of her when she falls sick?	Her close friends or people appointed by the women's leader
29	As4		Elder	M	If a man or woman is a stranger (<i>hota</i>) who takes care of them when they fall sick?	The "stranger father" or "mother" (<i>hotakei</i> or <i>hotajei</i>) will take care of them [all people born outside the local community have a recognised patron or host, who is responsible for their good behavior in the community]
30	Al1	48	Elder	M	What arrangement will	We will hire a motor bike [taxi] to

					you make to send a sick person to a health center if the person is not able to get medical attention in this place?	transport the person to Joru health center, but in the rains we use a hammock (<i>mbomie</i>). Token [<i>payment</i>] is given to some youths appointed or volunteering to travel with the sick person.
31	Ag4	46	Elder	M	Who makes the final decision to take the sick person [citizen] to another location?	The chief and family members will decide on it
32	Aj3		Elder	M	Who will decide to take a sick person [stranger] to another location?	The chief or "stranger father" [<i>hotakei</i>]
32	Aj4		Elder	M	If there is no money to pay medical bills and transport who will pay the bill?	The family members and town people will contribute; if the money cannot cover the cost they can pledge the property or plantation of the sick [<i>a security for a loan</i>]. Co-religious people contribute if the person is a Muslim. Town people will contribute.
33	Am1	52	Elder	M	Have people heard about Ebola?	Yes
34	Am2	52	Elder	M	Has there been any actual case of Ebola in this town?	No
35	Aj4		Elder	M	What are the signs and symptoms of Ebola?	High fever, red eyes, headache, general body pain, frequent stool, vomiting with blood, body fluid and body rash
36	Af4	42	Elder	M	What are the causes of Ebola?	Eating animals without blood such as snail [<i>kuli</i>], eating wild animals such as chimpanzee monkey and snake.
37	Ak3		Elder	M	What are the causes of Ebola?	It is caused by God (<i>fitini</i>) and witchcraft and dirty water
38	Ah4	48	Elder	M	How does Ebola spread?	Touching of sick people, use of highly concentrated chlorine, casual sexual intercourse, eating food with an infected person, lodging of strangers and frequent movement of infected person from one place to the other.
39	Am3		Elder	M	How does Ebola spread?	Lack of knowledge about the sickness and lack of trust in the health workers
40	Ai3		Elder	M	How do we prevent the Ebola?	Avoid hand shake with an infected person
41	An1	50	Town speaker	M	Do people have memories of smallpox?	No
42	An2	50	Town speaker	M	Do people have memories of TB?	Nobody has been affected with this disease.
43	Al4		Elder	M	How many people have been infected with TB in this village?	Yes
44	Am4		Elder	M	If yes how many people have been affected?	Nobody has been affected in this village

45	Ao1	^60	Elder	M	Do people have memories of PPR (goat disease)?	No
46	An2	50	Town speaker	M	Do you have goats and sheep in your village?	We don't have these animals in our village
47	Aa5	44	Town chief	M	How are bodies prepared for burial?	Water is warmed by elderly women, and a washing place prepared at the back of the house surrounded by tarpaulin or mat. A hole is dug for the water to drain into. An elderly daughter can be present, including 3 elderly women
48	An3	50	Town speaker	M	What material do they use to wrap the corpse?	The entire body is wrapped with satin tied on the neck, the hand and the neck
49	Ao3	60	Elder	M	Who carries the corpse?	Members of the village including the eldest son or brother of the deceased
50	Ai3		Elder	M	Did any person die in the village during the past 6 months?	Nobody has died in this village during the past 6 months
51	Ap1	65	Elder	M	Before death, how did you clean the people who are unconscious?	Three or four family members sit by the person, change her dress, wipe her and clean any mess
52	Ao4	60	Town speaker	M	How did you administer drugs to the sick 2 days before death?	A piece of cloth is soaked in cold or lukewarm water depending on the situation. The cloth is rubbed on the skin to cool the temperature and the drug is dissolved in water and put gently into the throat
54	Ap2		Elder	M	How will you feed a sick person 2 days before death?	You will have to raise the person and sit at his back, raise his head up with your hand under it and drop water in the throat; two people will be involved and liquid food is dropped into the throat
55	Ae3	43	Elder	M	How will you dress a sick person two days before death?	The caretaker will have to sit at the back of the sick person and put clothes on the person. This is done by two persons
56	Ap3	65	Elder	M	What will you do when someone dies?	An elderly person will close the eyes and mouth if they were open and lay the person straight with hands on the sides
57	Ae4	43	Elder	M	What will you do after closing the eye and the mouth?	The body is removed from the bed on to the mat on the floor by 4 people and the body is covered with cloth
58	Aa6	44	Elder	M	How will you wash the body for final burial?	Elderly women warm water, and prepare the washing site at the back of the house
59	Ae5	43	Elder	M	How will you wash the body for final burial?	The washing place is surrounded by mat or tarpaulin and a flat place is prepared in the middle of the washing site
60	Ap4		Elder	M	How will you wash the body for final burial?	A hole is dug under the flat wood substance where the body is to be washed so that water will drain into the hole. Four people transfer the body to the washing site
61	An5		Elder	M	How will you wash the	Two pairs of gloves are worn from the

					body for final burial?	satin bought for burial. This is worn by those washing the body, and two people will pour water on the body
62	Ai4		Elder	M	How will you wash the body for final burial?	Soap is rubbed on the skin and washed properly. Any kind of soap will be used and the body is then taken into the house
63	Aj5		Elder	M	How will you wash the body for final burial?	The body is brought into the house and placed in wooden coffin
64	Ak5		Elder	M	How will you wash the body for final burial?	The body is taken back into the house and an imam or pastor will be called
65	An4		Elder	M	How do you dress the corpse for burial?	After washing, the body is moved from wet mat to the dry mat for dressing. Those who wash the body dress it and the best clothes which he or she loved most will be put on them and sprayed with perfume
66	Aj5		Elder	M	How many people dig the grave?	Many people
66	Aj5			M	What implement do you use to dig the grave?	Cutlass, pickaxe and shovel are used to dig the grave
67	Ai5		Elder	M	What are the processes involved in digging the grave?	The site for the grave is identified by the family and the place is cleared and brushed
68	Ap5		Elder	M	What are the processes involved in digging the grave?	The grave is dug by many people, the earth removed and whole properly shaped for the corpse to be laid
69	Ak6		Elder	M	What happens when the corpse is taken to the mosque?	The body is taken to the mosque by 6 people and placed outside the mosque. The imam says the last prayer and the body is taken to the grave site
70	Ai6		Elder	M	What happens when the corpse is transferred to the grave site?	Six people take the corpse to the cemetery gate
71	Ae6	43	Elder	M	What happens when the corpse is transferred to the grave site?	The last child draws the cloth from the grave and runs to the stream or river. Reason being that the people will know he or she is the last child. The cloth is washed by an elderly woman which she will dry and later give to the last child (Ab6 and Aj6)
72	Al6		Elder	M	What happens when the corpse is transferred to the grave site?	The final farewell message is made by the wife, husband, relatives and children In the case of Muslims, the coffin is taken back home whilst the body is gently lowered in the grave by two people, but is received by three people
73	Ab5	60	Elder	M	What happens when the corpse is transferred to the grave site?	The body is laid on the right hand side and the satin is removed from the face. The religious leader unties the rope from the hand, foot and neck. Sticks are placed on top of the body covered by leaves

74	Ac5	65	Elder	M	What happens when the corpse is transferred to the grave site?	Leaves are placed on the sticks and these are covered with the soil first removed and later the bottom soil
75	Aa7	44	Elder	M	What happens when the corpse is transferred to the grave site?	The religious leader says a final prayer and people return home. Each person will take a stone and drop it into the bucket and wash their hands and feet
76	Ac6	65	Elder	M	What are the foreseeable constraints if a rescue center is to be constructed in your town?	Transportation, torch light, rain coats
77	Aq1	45	Elder	M	What are the burial practices done in your community?	If an ordinary persons dies, the relatives will tell the chief and they will also send relatives to neighboring towns and villages to close family member and loved ones
78	Ai6		Elder	M	What happens when the Paramount Chief dies?	Member of his society will bury him with no external or internal arrangement
79	Af4		Elder	M	Can ordinary persons be involved in the chieftaincy burial?	No, only members
80	Aq2		Elder	M	If a head of secret society dies?	If the head of the secret society dies, all the society members in the surrounding villages will be informed. Women dance throughout the night (<i>hokomie</i>)

Focus group, village: SANOLA Gaura, group: WOMEN ELDERS, Date: 8/12/2014

No	Card No	Age	Status	Sex	Questions	Response
1	Ba1	40	Elder	F	What serious sickness have you experienced over the past 12 months?	Malaria
2	Bb1	45	Societal Head	F	What serious sickness have you experienced over the past 12 months?	Pneumonia
3	Bc1	60	TBA	F	What serious sickness have you experienced over the past 12 months?	Headache
4	Bd1	70	Elder	F	What serious sickness have you experienced over the past 12 months?	Swelling of foot
5	Ba2	40	Elder	F	What are the symptoms of malaria?	Weakness all over the body
6	Be1	51	Elder	F	What are the signs and symptoms of malaria?	Headache
7	Bf1	43	Women's leader	F	What are the symptoms of malaria?	Yellow color of urine
8	Bc2	60	Elder	F	What are the symptoms of malaria?	Fever
9	Bd2	70	Elder	F	What are the symptoms of malaria?	Loss of appetite
10	Be2	51	Elder	F	What are the symptoms of malaria?	Increase in the size of the stomach due to constipation
11	Bg1	41	Elder	F	How do you treat malaria?	Boil the leaf of <i>nyale</i> to drink for 3 consecutive days, morning and evening.
12	Bb2	45	Elder	F	How do you treat malaria?	The bark of <i>bobei</i> tree is scraped mixed and tied around the waist of the patient until you are healed. The rule is that you should not allow it to fall on the ground
13	Bf2	43	Elder	F	How do you treat malaria?	Boil the leaves of <i>tonyie</i> and <i>nyeile</i> , use the solution to wash the face, palm and under your feet for three consecutive days
14	Bd3	70	Elder	F	How do you prevent malaria?	Always sleep under mosquito net
15	Be3	51	Elder	F	How do you prevent malaria?	Keep environment clean
16	Ba3	40	Elder	F	How do you prevent malaria?	Wear twisted rope of <i>bobei</i> tree around your waist
17	Bb3		Elder	F	How do you prevent malaria?	Avoid walking bare footed
18	Bd4	70	Elder	F	Have you had about	Yes, this sickness has disturbed our children

					<i>Makru?</i>	and even adults in this village
19	Bf3	43	Elder	F	What are the symptoms of Makru?	Redness or inflammation of the armpit, leg and neck area
20	Bc3	60	Elder	F	What are the symptoms of Makru?	General weakness all over the body
21	Bd5	70	Elder	F	What are the symptoms of Makru?	Diarrhea
22	Bg2	41	Elder	F	What are the symptoms of Makru?	Development of rash all over the body
23	Ba4	40	Elder	F	What are the treatments for Makru?	The root of <i>kpoi yakoi</i> and <i>ndolajeh</i> (short and ripe banana) are boiled together and given to the patient to drink
24	Bd6	70	Elder	F	What are the treatments for Makru?	The bark of <i>jeikoi</i> is scraped and sun dried. This is boiled and given to the patient until the patient is healed
25	Bg3		Elder	F	What are the treatments for Makru?	Lemon grass is boiled with water and given to the patient to drink
26	Ba5	40	Elder	F	How do you prevent Makru?	Avoid eating sweet things during pregnancy
27	Bf4	43	Elder	F	How do you prevent Makru?	Avoid given food with too much sugar to children
28	Bg4	41	Elder	F	Have you heard about Ebola?	Yes, through radio and NGO's (GOAL & World Vision) and we heard that an outbreak occurred in Peri Fefewabu. We have no incident of the disease in our community.
29	Ba6	40	Elder	F	What are the symptoms of Ebola?	Vomiting and diarrhea
30	Be4	51	Elder	F	What are the symptoms of Ebola?	Rise in body temperature due to fever
31	Be5	51	Elder	F	What are the symptoms of Ebola?	Headache
32	Bc4	60	Elder	F	What are the symptoms of Ebola?	Joint pains and body weakness
33	Bf5	43	Elder	F	What are the symptoms of Ebola?	Redness of eyes
34	Bh1	47	Elder	F	How does Ebola spread?	People contract Ebola by touching of an Ebola patient
35	Bf6	43	Elder	F	How does Ebola spread?	Washing of dead bodies of Ebola victim
36	Ba7	40	Elder	F	How does Ebola spread?	Touching the vomit of an Ebola patient
37	Bg6	41	Elder	F	How does Ebola spread?	Contacting the blood, urine and stool of an Ebola patient
38	Be5	51	Elder	F	How does Ebola spread?	By eating bushmeat, such as bats, monkeys and chimpanzees
39	Bb4	35	Elder	F	How do we prevent Ebola?	Avoid contacting Ebola patient
40	Ba8	40	Elder	F	How do we prevent Ebola?	Always wash your hands with soap
41	Bh2	47	Elder	f	How do we prevent	Isolate any suspected Ebola case

					Ebola?	
42	Bb5	45	Elder	F	How do we prevent Ebola?	Obey the by-laws of your community
43	Be6	51	Elder	F	How do we prevent Ebola?	Continuous prayer to avert Ebola from our community
44	Bh3	47	Elder	F	How do we prevent Ebola?	Avoid washing the dead bodies of Ebola victims
45	Bc5	60	Elder	F	Who cares for an adult man who falls sick in your communities?	The elder brother or his eldest son provides care
46	Bg7	41	Elder	F	Who cares for an adult woman who falls sick in your communities?	The sister or eldest daughter provides care when she fall sick
47	Bb6	45	Elder	F	If the adult man or woman has no wife or husband, who provide care for them?	It is the responsibility of the brothers and sisters to care for them
48	Bh4	47	Elder	F	If care cannot be provided for the sick, what arrangement can be made to send him or her to hospital and how will this person be transported?	The only means of transportation is motorbike [<i>taxi</i>] and is expensive.
49	Be7	51	Elder	F	How do you take the final decision to send him to hospital?	The head of the family in consultation with other family members will decide to send the person for medical treatment. Sometimes the head is the wealthy or rich man
50	Bc6	60	Elder	F	What happens when there is no money?	The head of the family will summon an emergency meeting with all members of the family present to contribute money and send the person for treatment
51	Bg8	41	Elder	F	Describe the normal washing of dead bodies before outbreak of Ebola?	People were trained to wash dead bodies in each community, but today the burial team is in charge of all death. In times past, men washed men and [<i>women washed</i>] women, but today the Ebola team does not take cognizance of gender
52	Bb7	45	Elder	F	Describe the normal washing of dead bodies before outbreak of Ebola?	The people will measure the water for washing the dead. They will measure 10 [<i>units</i>], but only 9 go into the pot for boiling. One cup is thrown on the ground as a sign of sacrifice. Two broomsticks are laid on top of each other over the pot of water until the hot water becomes lukewarm. Three males and 3 females are charged with the responsibility of washing the dead
53	Bc7	60	Elder	F	Describe the normal washing of dead bodies before outbreak of	The 3 people are charged with the following responsibility The 1 st will pour water, the 2 nd with a pair of gloves on his hands will scrub

					Ebola?	the body, whilst the third person's job is to turn the body from left to right. The glove is sewn from the remains of the satin [<i>for wrapping the body</i>]
54	Bh5	47	Elder	F	Describe the normal washing of dead bodies before outbreak of Ebola?	The Muslim burial team will perform ablution before they touch the body. The same is done on the corpse before <i>jaanaba</i> . After washing the hand, the nostrils, mouth, and the face and arms are washed three times each. Water is rubbed on the hair and the whole of the right hand side is washed first and later the left hand side. After all this Muslim washing, the body is now formally washed the normal way. The hair of the female is loosed and plaited in large folds after washing. For Christian, they follow the normal burial practices
55	Be8	51	Elder	F	Describe the normal washing of dead bodies before outbreak of Ebola?	The body is wrapped in a shroud also known as <i>kasanke</i>
55	Be9	51	Elder	F	Who carries the corpse?	Youths are charge with the responsibility of carrying the corpse, regardless of their relationship [<i>to the deceased</i>]
56	Bb8	45	Elder	F	Where have people been buried in the last six months?	The dead are still buried in the cemetery as before
57	Bc8	60	Elder	F	Number of people involved in transporting the corpse?	Four youths are involved most times in transporting the corpse from the washing site to the house. They sometimes exchange position when carrying the corpse
58	Bd7	70	Elder	F	What will a man do when his wife dies?	The man will bury his wife; formerly, the elderly women will go to the man's house and take him to the center of the town and flog him publicly not to involve [<i>himself</i>] in any sexual act since the wife has just died, but the advent of religion and modern civilization has changed [<i>ended</i>] this practice
58	Bd8	70	Elder	F		In the case of women, they will wear blue or white poplin for forty days. A Muslim cleric will make a necklace which is put on the neck of the woman during mourning. This is to check if the woman is pregnant. This practice is still common among the Muslims
59	Bh6	47	Elder	F	What will a parent do when the 1 st child dies?	A special concoction is prepared which the husband and wife will wash with near a stream. This cleansing should be done before they both share beds
59	Bh7	47	Elder	F	What are you supposed to do two days before	The person is supposed to be in a state of unconsciousness, where experienced

					death of some one?	personnel should be involved in caring for this person
60	Bc9	60	Elder	F	How is the person cleaned?	Two or three elderly persons are appointed to clean and change her cloth
61	Ba8	40	Elder	F	How do you administer drugs to such a person?	A lukewarm water is warmed and a towel is soaked and rubbed on the skin to clean and cool the temperature. Tablets are grinded and dissolved in water and orally given to the sick
61	Ba9	40	Elder	F	How is the sick fed two days before death?	The unconscious person does not eat solid food. We use two pillows to support the head or lean on you; liquid food like pap is often given using a tea spoon
62	Bg9	41	Elder	F	How do you dress such a person?	Somebody will sit at the back of the sick person and the second person will dress him or her up. The person is then laid straight and slowly on the bed and covered
63	Bc10	60	Elder	F	What happens 2 days after death?	If the eyes and mouth are open after death, they are closed by an elderly person or a caretaker. The body is cleansed of all rubbish and covered before announcement is made to the general public. Four people transfer the corpse from bed to mat and 3 people wash the corpse. Four people carry the body to the church or mosque. In the Muslim way, the body is laid on a stretcher and carried by 4 people; the same is true for the church. The number of grave diggers varies from community to community, but is mostly done by youths because they believe they will be rewarded by God, even if they receive a token. Muslim clerics put the corpse into the grave and it is forbidden for any one who has had sex to put the body into the grave. In Christian burial, anybody can put the corpse into the grave
63	Bc10	60	Elder	F	Who puts the cloth on top of the corpse?	The caretaker or elder will cover the corpse with cloth. From head to toe.
64	Ba10	40	Elder	F	What happens to the cloth placed on top of the coffin?	An elderly woman who wrapped the coffin will now take the cloth and put it on top of the last child's head and they both go to the stream or river. The cloth is washed, sun dried and given to the last child as personal property
65	Ba11	40	Elder	F	If a community rescue center is constructed within your chiefdom or section, what are the foreseeable constraints?	Long distance [to be] covered Lack of transportation and high cost of those [means] available. Poor road network during the rains. Trauma to leave your village for medical assistance elsewhere is difficult and stressful to

						overcome
66	Bd9	70	Elder	F	What are the burial practices for normal people?	When a normal person dies, the family report to the chief, the chief in turn contacts the sanitary officer who then identifies a [<i>grave</i>] site and report to the youths who then dig the grave
67	Bd10	70	Elder	F	What are the burial practices for normal people?	As the digging of the grave proceeds, women are appointed to warm the water to wash the corpse. Water is measured; as usual 9 units input and one thrown away. If a Muslim, the body is handed over to the Muslim imam. The Muslim jaamat will now appoint people to wash the body. The same is true for the pastor. The body after washing will be taken to the church or mosque for prayer and then later to the burial site
68	Bh8	47	Elder	F	What are the burial practices for chief?	When a chief dies the section chief is informed and the section chief in turn contact the paramount. All other chiefs in the surrounding villages are informed. A time is fixed for them to converge in the village where all action will be taken for proper burial. No one will cry until pronouncement of death is made by the chiefs. Any family member who cries will be required to pay a fine. People are appointed to do the washing and dress for burial
68	Bf7	43	Elder	F		The in-laws of the paramount chief will take his clothes, wear it and start imitating the chief. Book of condolence is opened for the burial ceremony. The body will be taken to his house and laid in state for few minutes for prayer and later to the traditional people to perform their rituals. They will then continue dancing slowly to the family tomb or grave site where societal members will witness the burial process
69	Bc11	60	Elder	F	What are the burial practices for a societal head?	When a societal head dies, no one is to cry until it is declared by the societal head. They will be told that the person is in a state of unconsciousness. All the societal heads will converge in the village. A thin thread is passed around the house to prevent non members entering [<i>to see</i>] the body
70	Be10	51	Elder	F	What are the burial practices for a societal head?	When all have converged, the chief will report that the societal head is in a state of coma. And they will start to dance and

						<p>sing. A fine is levied on the family. When they pay, the society people will declare that their head is dead. The society people will perform their ceremony and hand over the body to the chief, who in turn will give <i>[it to]</i> the family. The religious clergy are called to pray on the corpse, thereafter the body is returned back to the societal head and it will be buried in a secret location. The fine levied on the family is <i>[for the amount]</i> he or she has been eating. Now that he is dead he should refund all to the society members before permission is granted for the burial</p>
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Focus group, village: SANOLA, Gaura chiefdom, facilitators: Christian Lansana/Wisdom Keyala, Date: 8/12/2014, Group: YOUTH

No	Card No	Age	Status	Sex	Questions	Response
1	Ca1	32	Youth leader	M	What serious sicknesses have you experienced in the past 12 months?	Diarrhea
2	Cb1	21	Youth	M	What are the symptoms of diarrhea?	Loss of appetite
3	Cc1	25	Youth	F	What are the symptoms of diarrhea?	Frequent stool and stomach ache
4	Cd1	23	Youth	F	What are the symptoms of diarrhea?	Weakness in the body
5	Ca2	32	Youth	M	What are the symptoms of diarrhea?	Too much sleep and tiredness
6	Ce1	37	youth	F	How many people were affected?	Six people have been affected this year
7	Cf1	29	Youth	M	What causes diarrhea?	Animals defecating in our town
8	Cg1	31	Youth	M	What causes diarrhea?	Lack of toilet facilities
8	Cd2	23	Youth	F	What causes diarrhea?	Eating with dirty hands
10	Ch1	27	Youth	F	What causes diarrhea?	Eating uncooked food
11	Ci1	35	youth	F	How does diarrhea spread?	Keeping dirty water in the environment
12	Ci1	40	Youth	M	How does diarrhea spread?	Drinking contaminated water
13	Ca3	32	youth		How does diarrhea spread?	Flies
14	Cf2	29	Youth	M	How do you treat people infected with diarrhea?	Drinking of colored chalky water.
15	Cc2	25	Youth	F	How do you treat people infected with diarrhea?	Eating raw cassava
16	Ck1	32	Youth	F	How do you treat people infected with diarrhea?	Drinking of ORS
17	Ci1	33	Youth	M	If treatment didn't work what will you do?	Take the person to hospital
18	Cm1	30	youth	M	How do you prevent diarrhea?	Frequent drinking of herbs such as <i>gbangba kojohogoui</i>
19	Cd3	23	Youth	F	How do you prevent diarrhea?	Always keep the environment clean
20	Cg2	31	youth	M	How do you prevent diarrhea?	Always cover your food
21	Cn1	27	youth	F	Are there other sicknesses in this town?	Malaria
22	Cb2	21	Youth	M	Are there other sicknesses in this town?	Headache
23	Cc3	25	youth	F	Are there other	Hernia

					sicknesses in this town?	
24	Ca4	32	Youth	M	Do you have any memories of smallpox?	No, we never experienced this disease in the past
25	Cb2	21	Youth	M	Do you have memories of tuberculosis?	No, we have not experienced it
26	Cc2	25	youth	F	Do you have memories of PPR?	No, we have not experienced it
27	Ci2		Youth		Do you have memories of PPR?	No, we have no goats in our village
28	Co1	32	youth	M	Who cares for sick people in this town?	The family members of the sick person.
28	Cb3	21	Youth	M	If an adult man becomes sick who will care for him?	The family members, especially the eldest son
29	Ck2	32	Youth	F	If an adult woman become sick who will care for her?	The eldest daughter of the sick person
30	Ch2	27	Youth	F	If the man has no wife who will care for him?	It is the responsibility of his family, mainly the brother
31	Cj2		Youth		If the woman has no husband who will care for her?	It is the responsibility of his family, mainly the sister
32	Cp1	36	youth	M	If the man or woman is a stranger, who will care for him or her?	The <i>hotakei</i> or <i>hotajei</i> (man and woman keeping them) will take care of the sick
33	Cq1	34	Youth	M	If the sick person cannot be cured in the village how will he/she be transported to the nearest health center and how much will it cost?	We will use okada [<i>bike taxi</i>] and it will cost Le 15,000 from Sanola to Joru health center
34	Ca5	32	youth	M	If the sick person cannot be cured in the village how will he/she be transported to the nearest health center and how much will it cost?	In the rainy season when there is no okada we use hammock to transport the sick, and the transporters are given a token
35	Cm2	30	youth	M	What will happen if there is no money to pay for transport and treatment?	The family member will contribute the money and pay. If the person is a Muslim, the Jamat will pay
36	Cg2	31	Youth	M	Who will make the final decision to transport the sick?	The family head
37	Cb4	21	youth	M	Have you heard about Ebola?	Yes, we have heard from radio and health workers who come to this town
38	Cl3	43	youth	M	Have you heard actual case of Ebola?	No case of Ebola in this town since the outbreak [<i>began</i>]

39	Co2		Youth		What are the symptoms of Ebola?	Fever and headache
40	Ch3	27	youth	F	What are the symptoms of Ebola?	Head ache and general body pain
41	Cd4	23	Youth		What are the symptoms of Ebola?	Vomiting and frequent stool
42	Ce2	47	Youth	F	What are the causes Ebola?	It is caused by eating bush meat like monkeys, bats and chimpanzee
43	Cc1	43	youth	M	What are the causes Ebola?	It is caused by God (<i>fitinie</i> , curse or trouble or judgment of God on a nation).
44	Cm3		Youth		How is Ebola transmitted?	By contacting the body of dead Ebola victim
45	Ck3		youth		How is Ebola transmitted?	Touching the vomit of a patient
46	Cn2		Youth		How is Ebola transmitted?	Through casual sexual intercourse
47	Ci2		Youth		How is Ebola transmitted?	Through body contact
48	Cp2		Youth		How do you prevent Ebola?	Observing the town bye-laws
49	Ch4	27	Youth	F	How do you prevent Ebola?	Avoid contact with Ebola patient
50	Cj3		youth		How do you prevent Ebola?	Isolation of Ebola patient
51	Ca6	32	Youth	M	How do you prevent Ebola?	Frequent washing of hand with soap
52	Cf3	29	youth	M	How do you prevent Ebola?	Avoid sex with Ebola victim
53	Cc4	25	youth	F	What arrangement do you make to bury the dead?	The death is reported to the chief and town elder, who will appoint people to wash the corpse. Three people are involved, one for pouring water, the second to rub soap on the skin and the third to turn the body
54	Cq2		Youth		What arrangement do you make to bury the dead?	The body is washed and wrapped in satin <i>kasanke</i> . The cloth tied around the hand of the second person is washed, dried and placed near the corpse
55	Cg3	31	youth	M	Who carries the corpse to the house?	The chief will appoint 4 people to take the corpse from the washing site to the formal house of the deceased
56	Cb5	21	Youth	M	Who carries the corpse to the grave site?	Anyone who wants to carry the corpse is free to do so, but the people appointed by the chief will be the same persons to take the corpse from the house to the grave
57	Co3		Youth		Where are the dead buried to date in this town?	Our people are still buried in our cemetery?
58	Cl4		youth		Why do they dress a bereaved woman in	This is to know if the deceased husband left the woman pregnant

					blue and white dress for 40 days?	
59	Ci3		Youth		What ceremonies will they perform on a bereaved husband?	They will flog the bereaved husband with cane on his feet to prevent him having sex with other women for seven days
60	Ce3	37	youth	F	When a child dies what ceremonies do they perform on the parents?	The woman is ceremonially washed before she is allowed to sleep with her husband after the child has been buried
61	Cm4		youth		What happen to a sick person two days before death?	If the father and/or mother are sick, the eldest son and daughter are responsible for their feeding, medication and dressing
62	Cr2		Youth		What happen to a sick person two days after death?	After death if the eyes and mouth are not closed the caretaker will close them, cover the body and inform the family members. The family members will now tell the chief and the chief will instruct people to take the body from the bed to the mat
63	Cq3		youth		How many people wash the corpse?	Three people are appointed to wash the body and four people take the corpse to the washing site and back into the house. The washing site is covered with tarpaulin or mat
64	Cj4		youth		How many people wash the corpse?	Four men take the corpse back to the house and it is officially handed over to the religious people
65	Cn3		youth		What happens when the corpse is taken to the mosque?	Four people take the corpse to the mosque; the body is laid outside the mosque where prayer will be made for the corpse
66	Ca7	32	Youth	M	How many people dig the grave?	There is no specific number of people involved in the digging. He site is brushed, cleared and the earth dug out
67	Cc5	37	youth	F	What happens at the cemetery?	Four people take the corpse to the cemetery on a stretcher, the last child draws the cloth and the husband or wife say final farewell to the dead, and [so do] all present
68	Cp3		youth		What happens at the cemetery?	Two people from among the grave diggers put the corpse into the grave and the body is received by those people in the grave. The rope is untied from the hand, feet and neck
69	Cm5		youth		What happens at the cemetery?	The imam says a short prayer and the people add leaves and soil on to the dead [body]
70	Cg4	31	Youth	M	If a rescue center is to be constructed in your chiefdom or town what are the likely problems	Lack of good road network and high cost of transportation

					or challenges you will face?	
71	Cr3		youth		If a rescue center is to be constructed in your chiefdom or town what are the likely problems or challenges you will face?	Long distances to cover
72	Cf4	29	youth	M	If a rescue center is to be constructed in your chiefdom or town what are the likely problems or challenges you will face?	No network coverage
73	Cb6	21	youth	M	If a rescue center is to be constructed in your chiefdom or town what are the likely problems or challenges you will face?	Lack of food supply will discourage their movement
74	Cg1	31	Youth	M	What are the possible solutions?	Provision of food, and accessibility to the center
75	Ct1	24	youth	F	What are the possible solutions?	Provision of vehicle to convey the sick
76	Ci4				What are the possible solutions?	The workers should be members of the community
77	Ce4	37	youth	F	What are the possible solutions?	Construction and maintenance of road for easy transportation of sick people
78	Ca8	32	youth	M	How is an ordinary person buried?	When an ordinary person dies, the chief is informed and he appoints people to wash. The 1 st person pours water, the second person scrubs and the third person turns the body
79	Cn4		Youth		How is an ordinary person buried?	The body is wrapped in white satin and the cloth on the first person's hand is removed and washed. The body is then taken for prayer in the mosque and later to the grave
80	Cd5	23	youth	F	How are chiefs buried?	When a chief dies, the elders of the town are informed and a message is sent to the others in the surrounding villages. When all the authorities are gathered, 3 people are appointed to wash the body in a secret location. And the grave - women are not allowed. They will not allow the women to see the grave until the chief is buried.
81	Cg5	31	youth	M	How are secret societal heads buried?	When a chief dies, the house is quarantined from none members with a thread showing that a noble person has died. The leaders of that society are

						informed and town members will start performing ceremonies until the arrival of the other members
82	Cc2	25	youth	F	How are secret societal heads buried?	When all the other have arrived, they will appoint other members of the team for ceremonial washing of the corpse and preparation for burial. The junior members will play only an observational role
83	Cg2	31	Youth	M	Have you seen helicopters flying over your area?	Yes, helicopters do come to our area. One belongs to TFL. They visit this village because they want to invest in Njagbema. So they come to view the operational areas around Njagbema