

The Role of Community Based PHC in COVID-19

May 19, 2020

TODAY'S OBJECTIVES

- Describe why and how community health workers – as part of primary health care teams – are vital for effective COVID19 response and sustaining primary health care systems
- Share experiences of how government colleagues are responding to COVID-19
- Identify specific investment opportunities, resources and connections that can help you support your country colleagues respond to COVID-19

Raj Panjabi, MD, MPH

CEO, Last Mile Health

Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School

raj@lastmilehealth.org

Effective Epidemic Response Relies on Community-Oriented Primary Health Care

Our collective response to COVID-19



WORLD GOES ON RED ALERT





AMMEX N95F
TC-6AA-4541
NIOSH N95

UNIT 3: EBOLA FACTS AND SAFETY HOW EBOLA IS SPREADING IN LIBERIA

Ebola is spreading in Liberia right now

Person to person



through body fluids of a person that is sick with or has died from Ebola.

Body fluids are things like...



Ebola enters the body through

It can spread to us when we touch our eyes, nose, or mouth

Or through small, open cuts in our skin



Additional Information on Spreading

Do not touch

Do Not touch

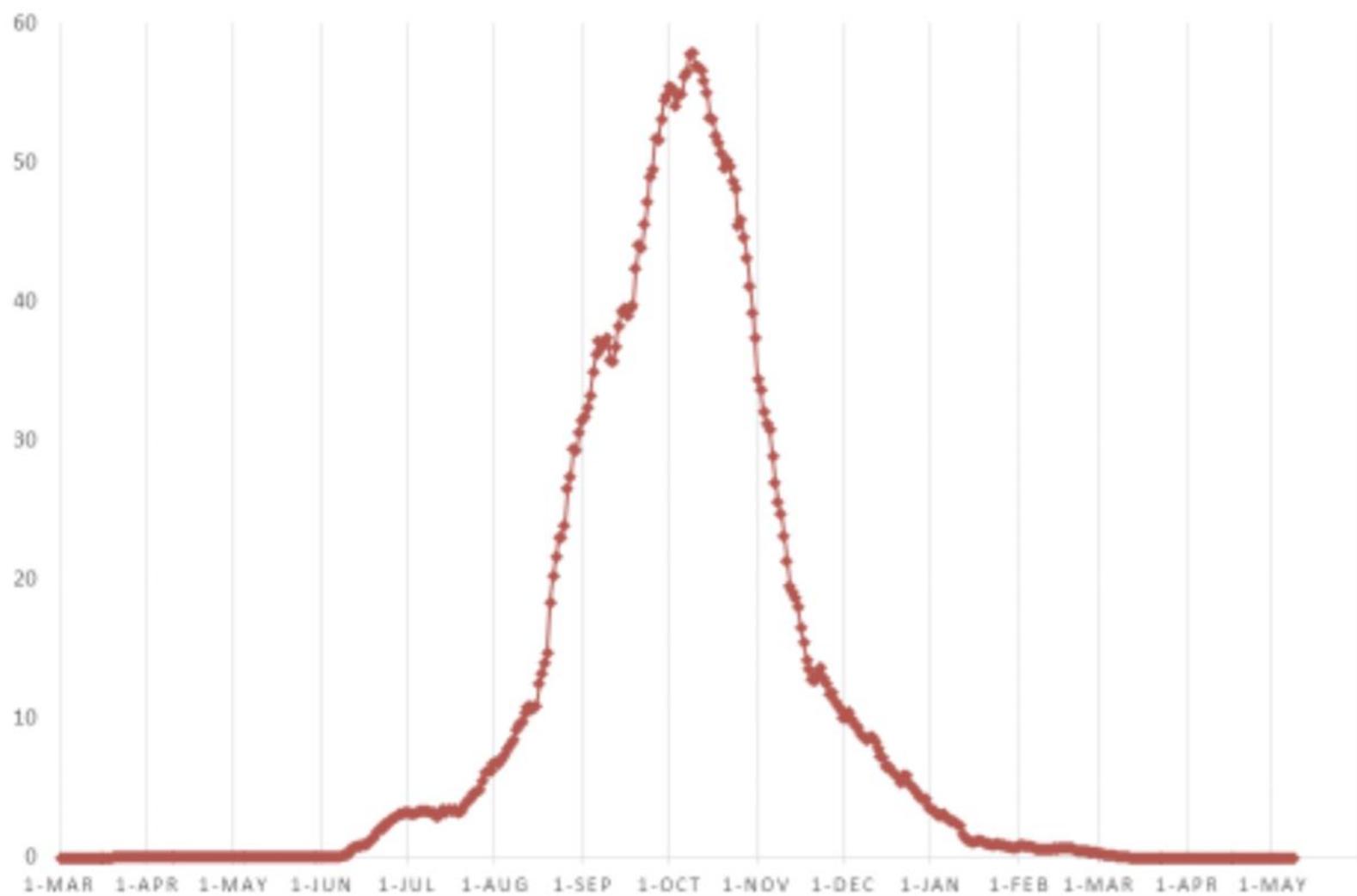
Do Not touch

Do Not touch



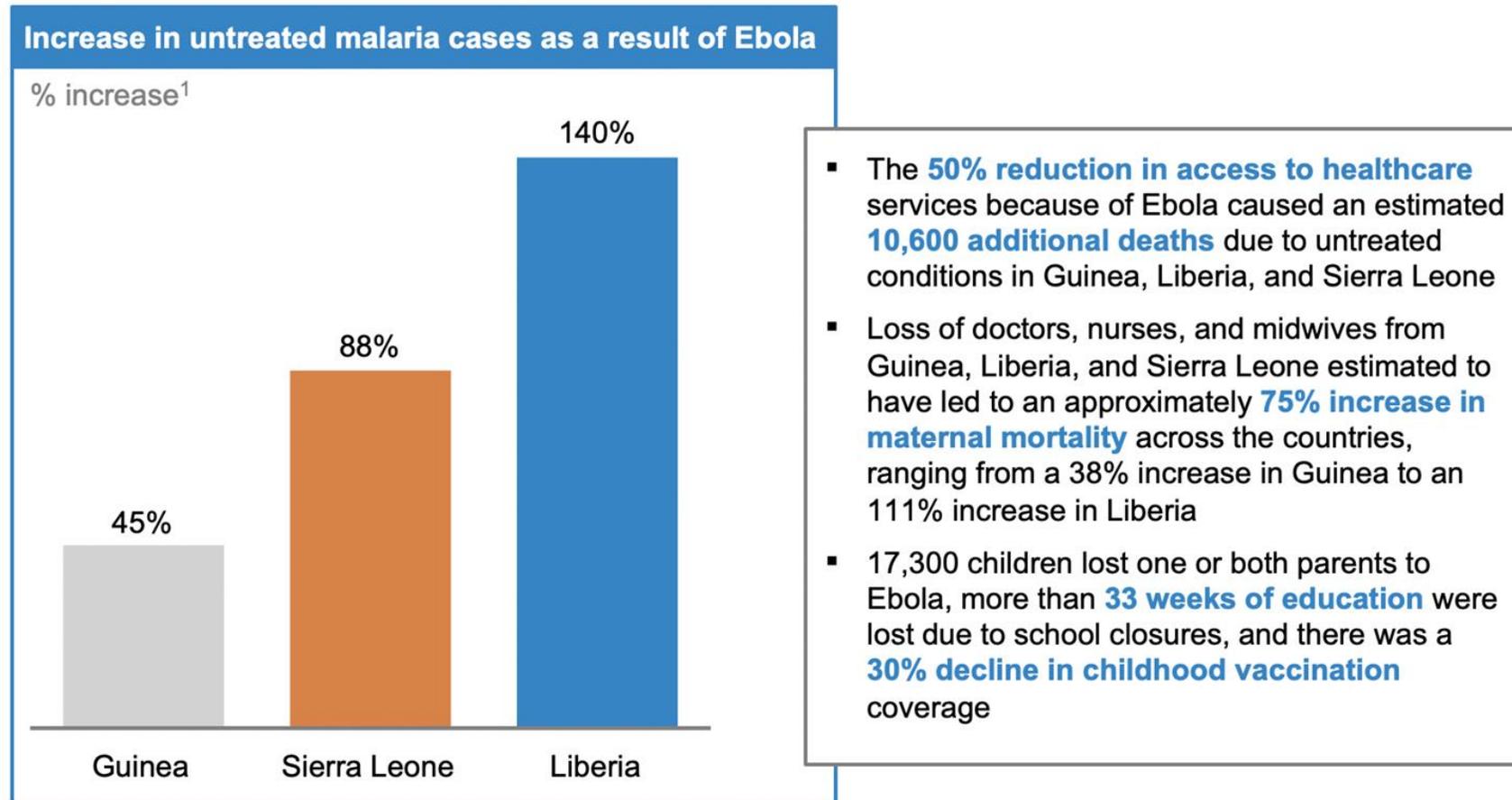


Number of Confirmed Ebola Cases/Day up to 9th May 2015 as moving average per day in the last 21 days

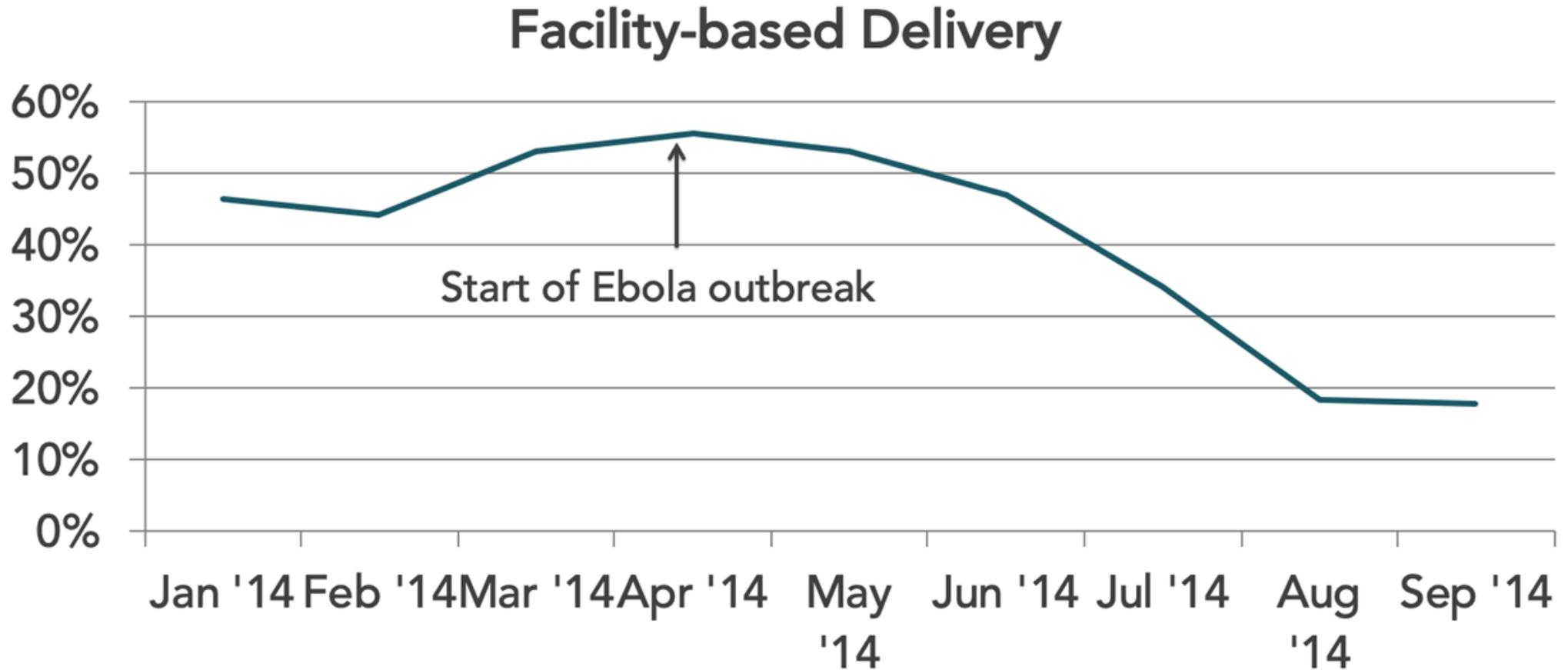


THE BEST EMERGENCY SYSTEM IS AN
EVERYDAY SYSTEM
-- THAT CAN SURGE IN A CRISIS

EPIDEMICS CAN LEAD TO A COLLAPSE OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

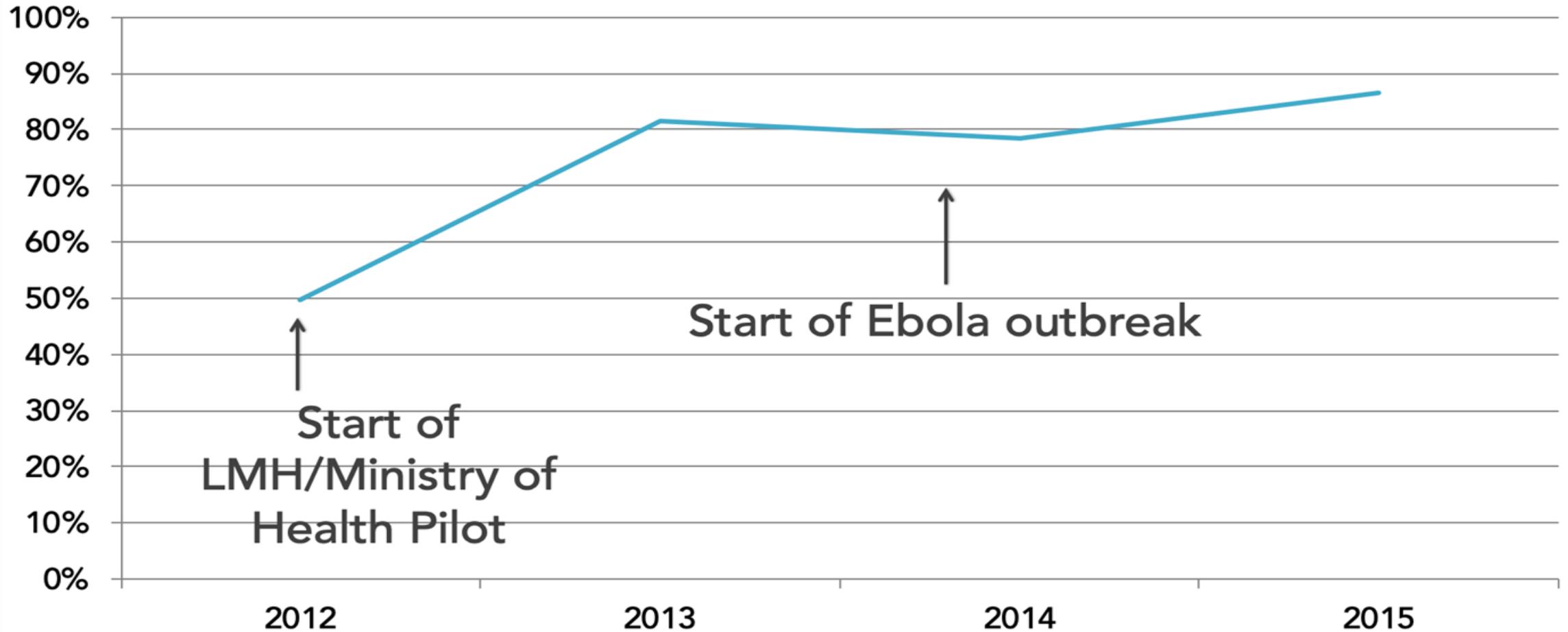


FACILITY-BASED DELIVERY: LIBERIA



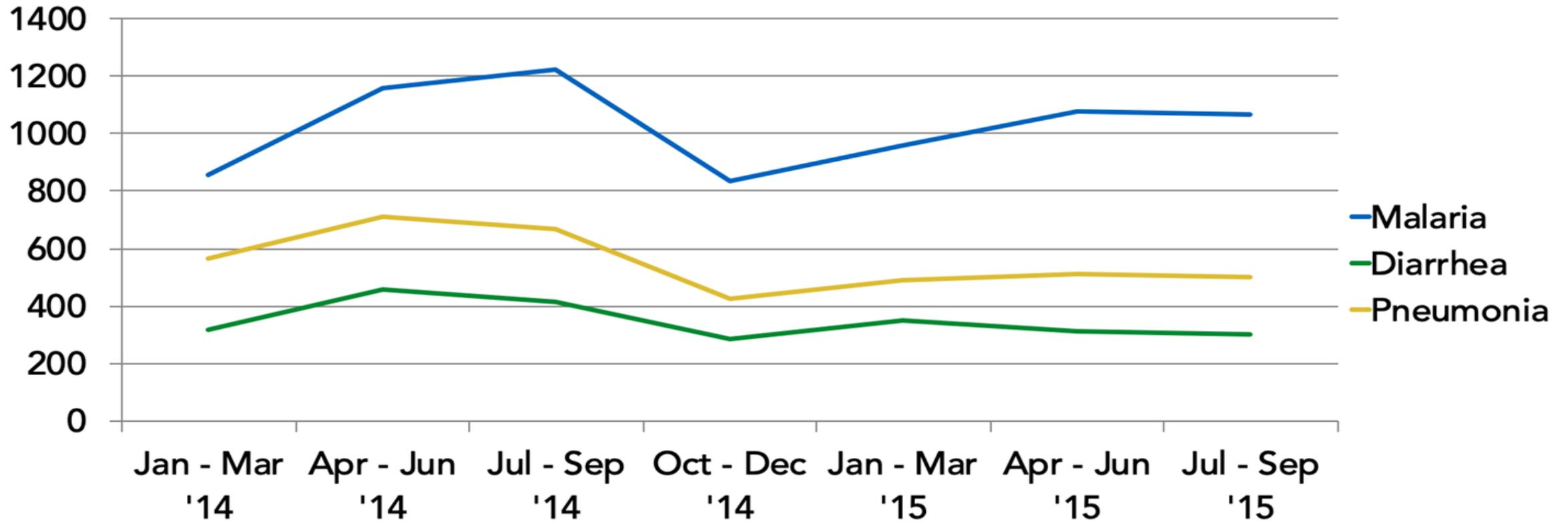
Nationally, Liberia experienced a 3X decrease in facility-based delivery

FACILITY-BASED DELIVERY: KONOBO



In Konobo, the facility-based delivery rate remained high, dropping by just 3%

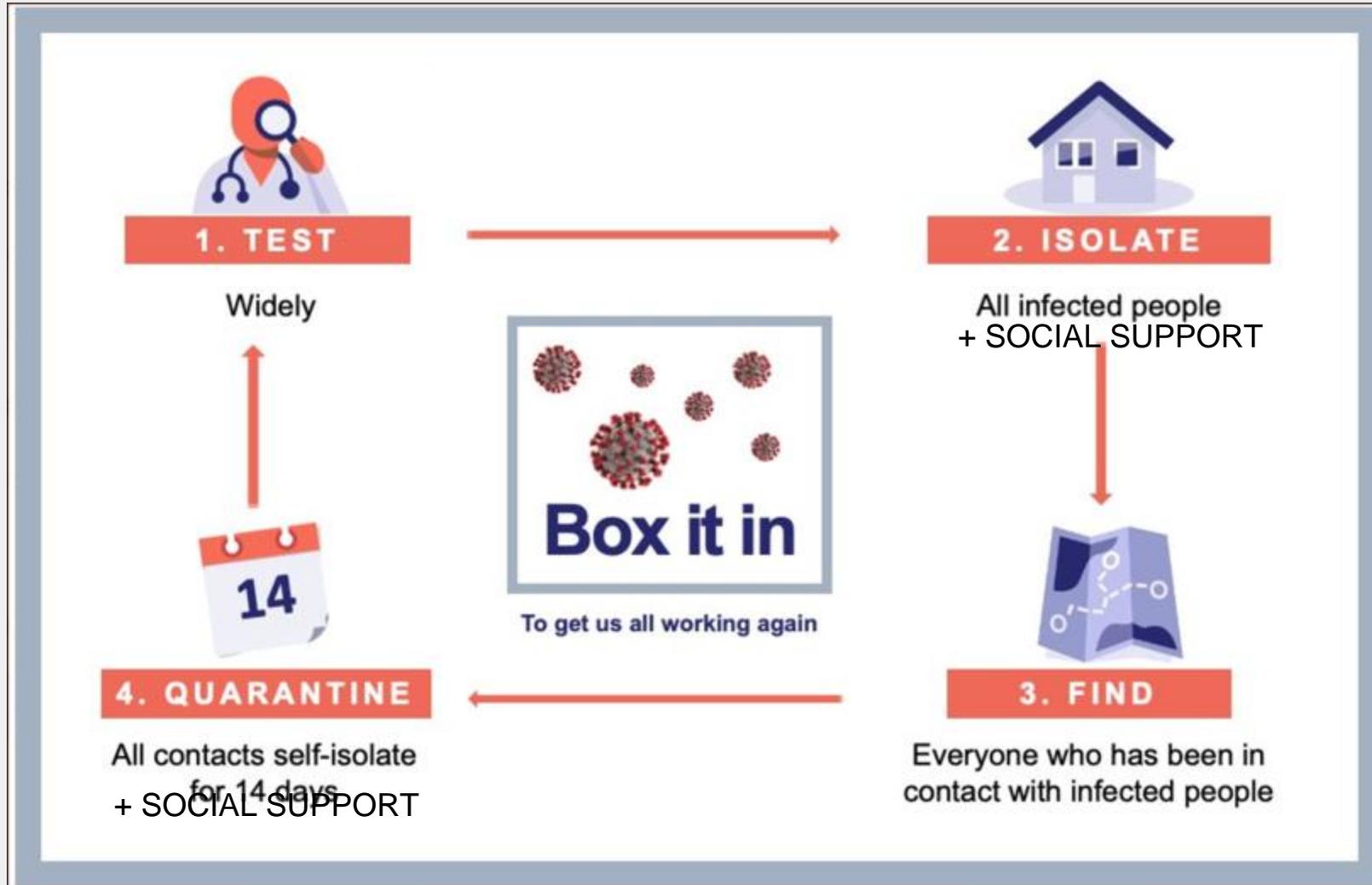
SICK-CHILD TREATMENT: KONOBO



In Konobo, integrated community case management (iCCM) services were sustained throughout the course of the outbreak

UNITING PREVENTION WITH CARE
SAVES LIVES

COVID19 CHALLENGE 1: HOW TO ACHIEVE RAPID & SUSTAIN VIRAL SUPPRESSION?



STRATEGY 1: COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS CAN HELP HEALTH SYSTEM "BOX IN" COVID19

	Roles for community-based PHC teams
PREVENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Community education and engagement- Organize hand hygiene stations- Support, lead or reinforce IPC measures- Prepare for the introduction of COVID-19 vaccines
DETECT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Identify signs and symptoms- Conduct COVID-19 testing or support sample collection & transport- Enter alerts into community event-based surveillance systems
RESPOND	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Combat misinformation in COVID-19 areas- Support self-isolation (including food, social and medical support)- Monitor and refer patients for clinical deterioration- Contact tracing, symptom reporting and monitoring of contacts

South Africa

+ Add to myFT

South Africa's mass screening helps stem the coronavirus tide

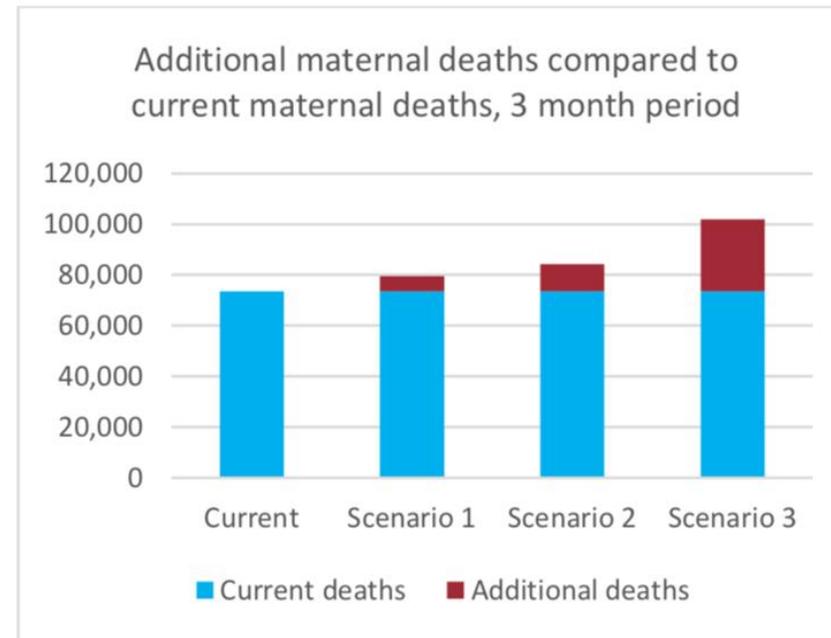
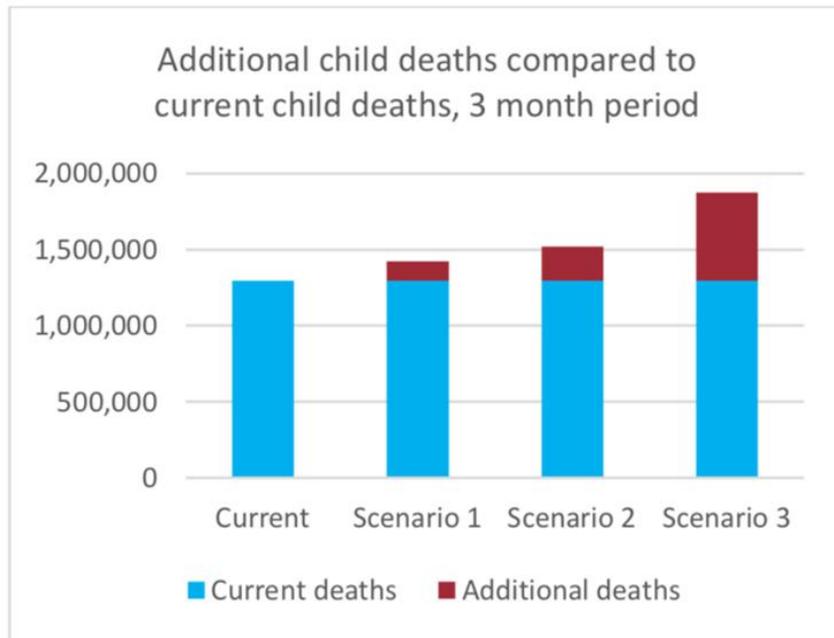
Use of community health workers to identify cases draws heavily on experience battling tuberculosis and HIV



A woman is tested for Covid-19 in Johannesburg's Alexandra township © Kim Ludbrook/EPA/Shutterstock

COVID19 CHALLENGE 2: HOW TO PREVENT PRIMARY HEALTHCARE SYSTEM COLLAPSE?

GFF leaders warn of emerging secondary global health crisis in primary health care due to COVID-19



Source: Robertson, Timothy and Carter, Emily D. and Chou, Victoria B. and Stegmuller, Angela and Jackson, Bianca D. and Tam, Yvonne and Sawdogo-Lewis, Talata and Walker, Neff, Early Estimates of the Indirect Effects of the Coronavirus Pandemic on Maternal and Child Mortality in Low-and-Middle Income Countries (April 15, 2020). Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3576549> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3576549>

STRATEGY 2: PROTECT PHC WORKERS AND MODIFY PHC PROTOCOLS

- Implement Infection Prevention & Control protocols across primary healthcare facilities, including creation of triage, respiratory illness clinics.
- Train frontline and community health workers in modified protocols to maintain essential health services at the primary healthcare level.

