

Case Study



Detecting, reporting, and analysis of priority diseases for routine public health surveillance in Liberia

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Cite this: The Pan African Medical Journal. 2017;27 (Supp 1):10.

DOI: 10.11604/pamj.supp.2017.27.1.12561

Received: 19/04/2017 - **Accepted:** 05/05/2017 - **Published:** 28/05/2017

Key words: Public Health, epidemiology, surveillance, data quality audit, data

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This article is published as part of the supplement "African Case Studies in Public Health" sponsored by **Emory University, African Field Epidemiology Network**

Guest editors: Olivia Namusisi, Scott JN McNabb, Ghada N Farhat, Joseph Asamoah Frimpong

Available online at: <http://www.panafrican-med-journal.com/content/series/27/1/10/full>

Abstract

Public health officials depend on timely, complete, and accurate surveillance data for decision making. The quality of data generated from surveillance is highly dependent on external and internal factors which may either impede or enhance surveillance activities. One way of identifying challenges affecting the quality of data generated is to conduct a data quality audit. This case study, based on an audit conducted by residents of the Liberia Frontline Field Epidemiology Training Program, was designed to be a classroom simulation of a data quality audit in a health facility. It is suited to enforce theoretical lectures in surveillance data quality and auditing. The target group is public health trainees, who should be able to complete this exercise in approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes.

How to use this case study

General instructions: a class of up to 20 trainees is ideal for a training sessions using this case study. The instructor facilitating the session should direct a participant to read a paragraph out loud, going around the room to give each participant a chance to read. Based on the type of question, the instructor may decide to divide the class into small groups for exercises, randomly identify a trainee to respond to the question, or engage the class in a group discussion of the answer. The aim of the interaction is to allow participants to learn from each other and not just from the instructor. Specific instructor's notes are included with each question in the instructor's version of this case study.

Audience: residents in Frontline Field Epidemiology Training Programs (FETP-Frontline), Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programs (FELTPs), and others who are interested in this topic.

Prerequisites: for this case study, trainees should have received lectures on data quality, data quality auditing, and SWOT analysis.

Materials needed: flipchart or white board with markers

Level of training and associated public health activity: Novice – Data Quality Auditing

Time required: approximately 2-3 hours

Language: English

Case study material

- [Download the case study student guide \(PDF - 1.50 MB\)](#)
- [Request the case study facilitator guide](#)

Competing interests

The authors declare no competing interest.

Acknowledgments

We wish to thank African Field Epidemiology Network and Emory University for supporting African-based case study development. We acknowledge residents of the Liberia Field Epidemiology Training Program and Ministry of Health, Liberia for allowing us to use their data for this case study.

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PAMJ is an Open Access Journal published in partnership with the African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET)

