



Applicant Information

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Abstract Details

Title:

Neglected Connections: A Missed One Health Opportunity in Yellow Fever Outbreak Response in Bongo District, Ghana

Category:

Socio-ecological determinants of Health (climate change and One Health)

Authors:

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Objectives:

This study examined the August 2024 Yellow Fever outbreak response in Bongo District, Ghana, with a focus on identifying gaps in the implementation of a One Health approach. It aimed to highlight missed opportunities in integrating human, animal, and environmental health strategies to enhance outbreak management and prevent future occurrences

Method:

We conducted 5 years retrospective analysis of surveillance data, outbreak response reports, and interviewed 12 key stakeholders. We reviewed how human health, veterinary, and environmental sectors collaborated or failed to collaborate during the August 2024 yellow fever outbreak. We analyzed the data and identified missed opportunities in One Health implementation.

Results:

We found that while human health interventions, such as vaccination campaigns, cold chain assessment and community engagements were rapidly deployed, no involvement of veterinary and environmental sectors was noted. The outbreak response also failed to conduct vector control and animal surveillance which limited the scope of the outbreak management. Additionally, we found that there was no intersectoral collaboration and communication among the human, animal and the environmental health sectors in the district. We again founded that there was limited knowledge among all the stakeholders on One Health approach to zoonotic outbreak response.

Conclusion:

The August 2024 Yellow Fever outbreak response in the Bongo District underscored the need for an integrated One Health approach to outbreak response, particularly in zoonotic diseases like Yellow Fever and proposed a more cohesive One Health framework in future outbreak responses. The study limitation was institutional silos.

Submission Date:

2024-09-12 22:50:39