Creating a Buruli Ulcer Community of Practice in Bankim Cameroon as a Model for Community Outreach in Africa

In the Cameroon, previous efforts to identify Buruli ulcer through the mobilization of community health workers have not been effective in combating this illness. This talk will describe the successful creation of a Buruli ulcer community of practice in Bankim, Cameroon composed of hospital staff, former patients, healthworkers, and traditional healers. Setting up lines of communication, and promoting collaboration and trust between community stakeholders and health staff is essential to the control of neglected tropical diseases. It is also essential to health system strengthening and emerging disease preparedness. The model described in this talk holds great promise for bringing communities together to solve pressing health problems in a culturally sensitive manner.

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