

**KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE REGARDING EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE  
AMONG THE COMMUNITY IN RASESA VILAGE IN KGATLENG  
DISTRICT, BOTSWANA**

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## ABSTRACT

A descriptive cross-sectional study design was used to find out the level of knowledge and attitude regarding Ebola virus disease (EBVD) among the community in Rasesa Village, Botswana. Self-administered structured questionnaire was used to collect data from 150 community members with age range from 20-50 years. The questionnaire was focused on demographic characteristics, knowledge on causes, transmission, treatment, preventive measure and survival period of the virus and attitude towards EBVD among the respondents. According to the results it was found out that most of the respondents answered incorrectly or did not know the preventive measures and the transmission mode of EBVD since they have never been exposed to the disease and no health education programs were implemented before the current outbreak of EBVD. Over 50% of the respondents are less likely not to know that transmission of EBVD can be prevented by *frequent hand washing with soap and water, and cleaning hands with disinfectants*. Out of eight different mode of transmission stated in the study, only two options that state "*EBV can be transmitted through contact with blood of an infected person and shaking hands and other physical contact with an infected person,*" had nearly 80% of the respondents answered correctly. In general over 50% of the respondents had poor knowledge and negative attitude regarding EBVD.

In conclusion, there was insufficient knowledge regarding EBVD among the respondents. Therefore, there is still a need to implement more health educational programs such as roadside campaign, seminars and public media announcement to increase awareness and improve the positive attitude towards EBVD among the community.

Key words: EBVD, EBV, knowledge and attitude