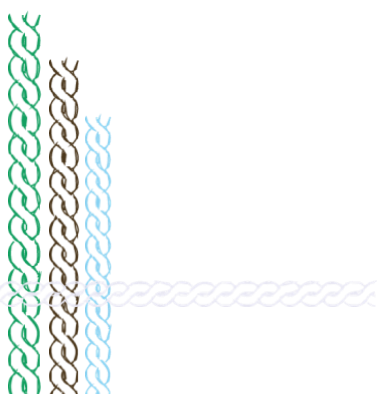


World Evidence-Based Health Care Day 2024 – Bali Health District



This report summarizes the outcomes of the World Evidence-Based Health Care (WEBHC) Day event held on Sunday, October 20th, 2024, at the Bali District Hospital in the North West Region of Cameroon.



Executive Summary

This report details the findings and recommendations from a **workshop** held at Bali Health District, North West Region of Cameroon, on October 20, 2024, to commemorate World Evidence-Based Healthcare Day. The workshop aimed to address the pressing healthcare challenges faced by the region, exacerbated by the ongoing polycrisis.

Key findings include significant staff shortages, limited funding, security risks, infrastructure deficiencies, and poor data management. To address these challenges, the report recommends increased government funding, partnerships with NGOs, innovative staffing solutions, infrastructure investments, strengthened data management, and a positive work environment.

By implementing these recommendations, Bali District Hospital can improve patient outcomes, enhance staff satisfaction, and strengthen community health. eBASE Africa remains committed to supporting the hospital and advocating for policy changes to improve healthcare access and quality.



Background and Rationale

The world is facing a polycrisis that combines challenges from climate change, ecological disasters, political conflicts, economic instability, and pandemics. These crises test the limits of our health systems and institutions, prompting an urgent need for action beyond the healthcare sector.

Bali Health District, Bamenda, located in a conflict-affected region, is at the frontlines of these intersecting crises. With a fragile healthcare infrastructure, they face increased pressure to deliver essential services amidst limited resources, security challenges, and the broader impacts of global inflation and environmental degradation. This makes it imperative to rethink how we deliver evidence-based healthcare in such a complex setting.

World Evidence-Based Healthcare Day 2024 presents a unique opportunity to engage with local health professionals, global experts, and stakeholders to co-create actionable strategies that address both the global and local challenges in delivering healthcare in conflict-affected areas like Bali District Hospital.

This report outlines a two-in-one event that will spark dialogue, promote participatory approaches, and introduce computable guidelines to enhance healthcare outcomes in these challenging times.

Mission

To empower Bali District Hospital healthcare workers, patients, and communities through evidence-based practices and initiatives.

Specific Objectives

- **Raise Awareness:** Highlight the global and local healthcare challenges in the era of polycrisis, particularly in conflict-affected regions like Bali District Hospital.
- **Participatory Engagement:** Facilitate discussions with local health personnel, allowing them to voice their concerns, share experiences, and collaboratively identify solutions.
- **Action-Oriented Outcomes:** Document the challenges and actionable recommendations derived from the participatory discussions to guide future interventions.
- **Introduction of Computable Guidelines:** Introduce the concept of computable guidelines as a tool to support the delivery of evidence-based healthcare in conflict-affected settings.
- **Foster Continuous Learning:** Create opportunities for ongoing education and training to keep hospital staff updated on the latest best evidence-based practices.



Activities

1. Presentations:

- **"The Global Healthcare Landscape and Crises Impact on Future Healthcare Delivery"** by Dr. Thelma, Researcher at eBASE Africa, focused on interconnected global challenges like inequitable access, limited funding, and fragile infrastructure, highlighting the importance of capacity building, collaboration, and intersectoral actions for health equity and resilience.
- **Summary of Computable Guidelines Introduction:** The objective was to introduce computable guidelines, making evidence-based practices accessible for daily use in Bali District Hospital. Given malaria's impact in Cameroon, guidelines were translated into machine-readable computable formats via the [FEvIR Platform](#), accessible from any electronic device, thereby supporting healthcare personnel in Bali and beyond in making better clinical decisions.

2. **Group Discussions and Q&A Sessions:** Interactive sessions facilitated experience sharing and solution development.

3. **In-Depth Interviews:** Selected participants provided insights through individual interviews.



People Reached

A total of 47 people were reached during the mission, including:

Category	Number
Doctors	3
Nurses	30
Hospital administrators	5
Healthcare support staff	5
Donors and partners	2
Community health workers	2



Key Findings

- **Staffing Shortages:** The hospital faces a severe shortage of healthcare professionals, leading to increased workload and burnout.
- **Financial Constraints:** Limited funding hampers the ability to procure essential equipment, medications, and supplies.
- **Security Risks:** The ongoing conflict in the region poses significant security threats to healthcare workers and patients.
- **Infrastructure Limitations:** The hospital's infrastructure is outdated and in need of significant repairs and upgrades.
- **Poor Data Management:** Ineffective data collection and analysis hinder evidence-based decision-making.

Key Recommendations

- **Advocate for Increased Government Funding:** Lobby for increased allocation of funds to healthcare, particularly in conflict-affected regions.
- **Partner with NGOs and International Organizations:** Seek partnerships to secure additional funding and resources.
- **Implement Innovative Staffing Solutions:** Explore strategies like telemedicine, mobile clinics, and volunteer programs to address staffing shortages.
- **Prioritize Essential Equipment and Infrastructure:** Invest in critical equipment and infrastructure upgrades to improve healthcare delivery.
- **Strengthen Data Collection and Analysis:** Implement robust data management systems and provide training to healthcare workers.
- **Foster a Positive Work Environment:** Create a supportive and motivating work culture to boost staff morale and retention.

Impact and Future Steps

The mission has highlighted the critical challenges faced by Bali District Hospital and the urgent need for sustainable solutions. By implementing the recommended strategies, the hospital can improve patient outcomes, enhance staff satisfaction, and strengthen community health.

eBASE Africa remains committed to supporting Bali District Hospital and other healthcare institutions in the region. Future collaborations may involve:

- **Continued Capacity Building:** Providing ongoing training and mentorship to healthcare workers.
- **Knowledge Sharing and Exchange:** Facilitating knowledge sharing and best practice exchange with other healthcare institutions.
- **Pilot Projects to Test Innovative Solutions:** Implementing pilot projects to evaluate the effectiveness of innovative approaches.
- **Advocacy for Policy Change:** Advocating for policy reforms to improve healthcare access and quality.



Conclusion

The 2024 WEBHC Day event at Bali District Hospital successfully engaged 47 participants, empowering healthcare workers through knowledge exchange and participatory problem-solving. The actionable recommendations developed during the event will contribute to improving healthcare delivery in conflict-affected regions, enhancing outcomes for both healthcare workers and patients.

The introduction of computable guidelines marks a significant step toward integrating evidence-based practices in complex environments, setting the stage for future improvements across the North West Region of Cameroon.

Acknowledgments

We extend our gratitude to the healthcare workers of Bali District Hospital for their participation and to our partners and donors for their invaluable support. We look forward to continued collaboration in improving healthcare services.

