

TITLE

Feasibility of Biometric Identification Technique for Demographic Surveillance System in an African rural setting.

PRESENTED BY:

Emmanuel Mahama, Dennis Boateng, Samuel Danso, Eliezer Odei-Lartey, Livesy Abokyi, Seeba-Amenga-Etego, AbubakariSulemana, Kwaku Poku Asante, Seth Owusu-Agyei



BACKGROUND



- One of the main challenge of morbidity surveillance in HDSS centres is the difficulty in linking health facility data with routine community data collected on the HDSS.
- Fingerprint is a biometric technique developed as an alternative to other forms of identification. It is used as part of automated systems to enhance individual identification.

Feasibility of this technique is being explored within an HDSS to overcome the challenges of linking health facility morbidity data and community based KHDSS data.





OBJECTIVE



 To examine the feasibility of using fingerprint as a biometric identification to support other traditional methods of identification systems in managing HDSS morbidity surveillance in rural Ghana



THE LOCATION OF KINTAMPO DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM (KHDSS)





METHOD



- The KHDSS electronic database for a selected area within the HDSS was upgraded to include fingerprints and photographs of population members
- Details of the HDSS members of the area present during the exercise was installed at a health facility to identify those patients
- Patients who visited the health facility were identified prioritizing on fingerprints, followed by ID cards and then patient's knowledge of personal details; including name, locality etc.



FINDINGS



- Coverage of Jema Sub-district enrollment was 12,549 (61.3%) out of 20,474 registered individuals.
- A total of 2,002 individuals visited the health facility between October 2010 and December 2010.
- Seventy –two percent (1444/2002) of patients who visited the facility were identified by at least one identification method.
- Forty-seven percent (678/1444) were effectively identified by fingerprints only while 53% percent (766/1444) were identified by the other identification methods only.





Fingerprints of patients identified at the health facility by age group



Fingerprints of patients identified by age





CONCLUSION



- Fingerprint technology combined with other traditional methods are feasible in identifying KHDSS population at the health facility.
- The fingerprint software application has been upgraded to reduce the patient waiting time at the various health facilities.



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Thank You!

