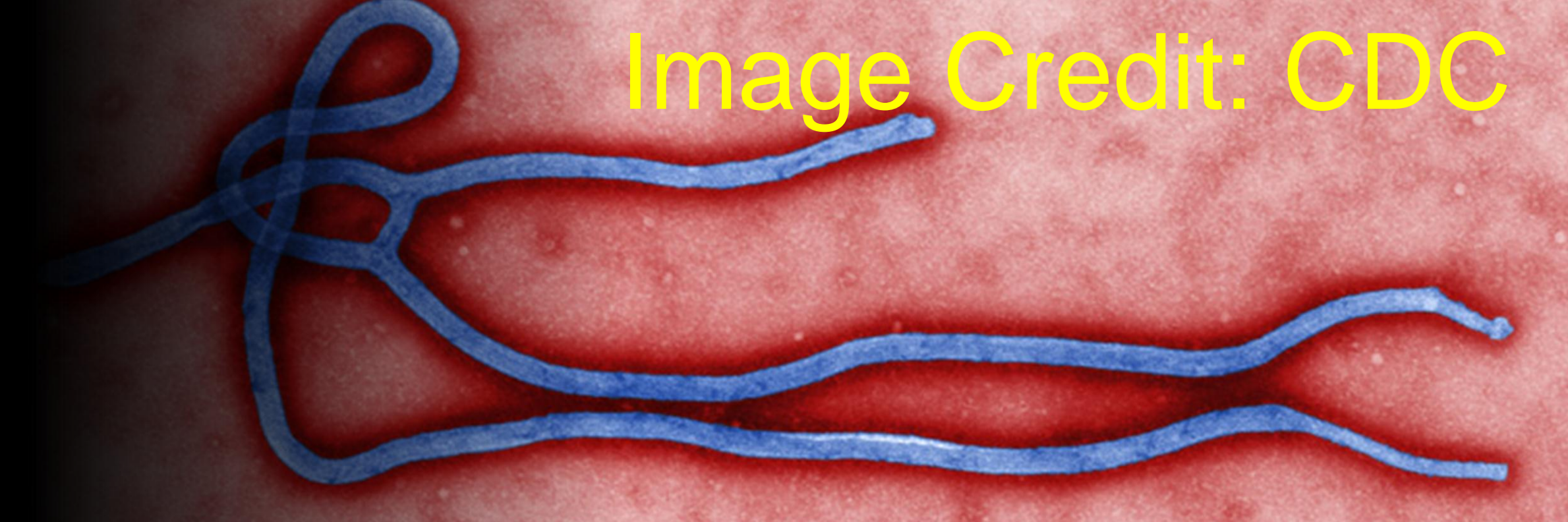




Ebola: Containing an Epidemic



Kelly Kleeb | Jinho Jung | GBC

Problem

The 2014 Ebola outbreak is the largest that the world has ever seen. How do we contain an epidemic of this size and severity?

Goals and Predictions

- Come up with reasonable fixes to the areas of breakdown in the current containment strategies.
- Ultimately, wipe out the Ebola Virus and eradicate the current outbreak from Western Africa.

Current Containment system

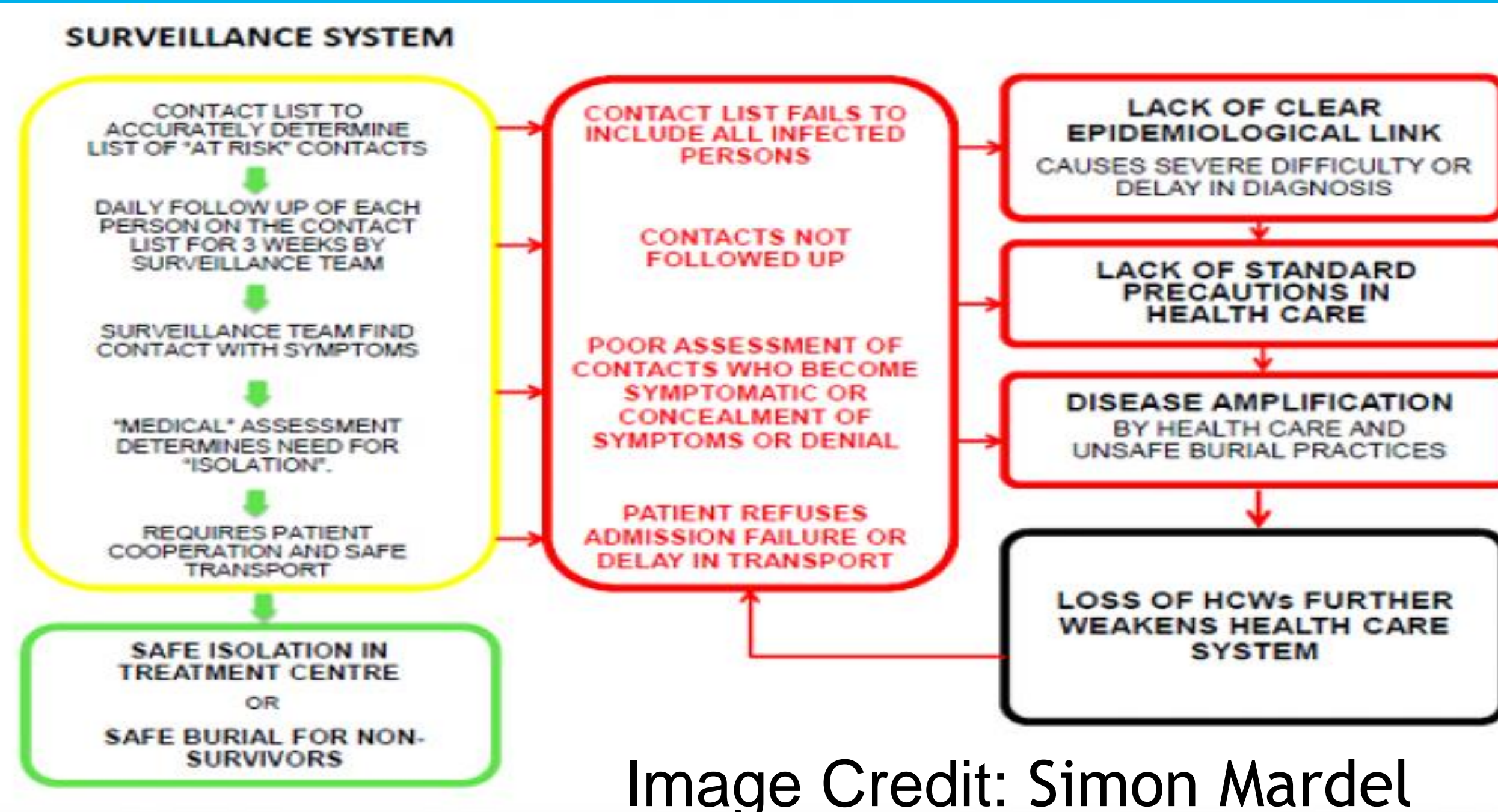


Image Credit: Simon Mardel

What Needs to Change

- The International Community must have a response plan for Global Health Crises. The responsibility for this undertaking would fall to the World Health Organization (WHO).
- Balanced effort- use all containment strategies equally.
- The foundation of all plans must be community involvement through trusted senior community leaders. (Priests, Shaman, etc.)
- Introduce anthropologists into response teams to promote cultural understanding between health workers and community.
- Have one agency over the entire outbreak for the sake of structure and accountability. This organization should be the WHO, as they are best equipped to handle the responsibility.
- Divide labor into specific groups, like in a cooperation with different departments. Have these groups work in tandem and report to the central authority, the WHO.

Division of Labor

- Division of labor among containment staff.

Hospital Staff

Field Work

Information

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| • Training | Burial | Community Engagement |
| • Case Management | Case Finding | Social Mobilization |
| • Lab Work | Contact Tracing | Information Management |

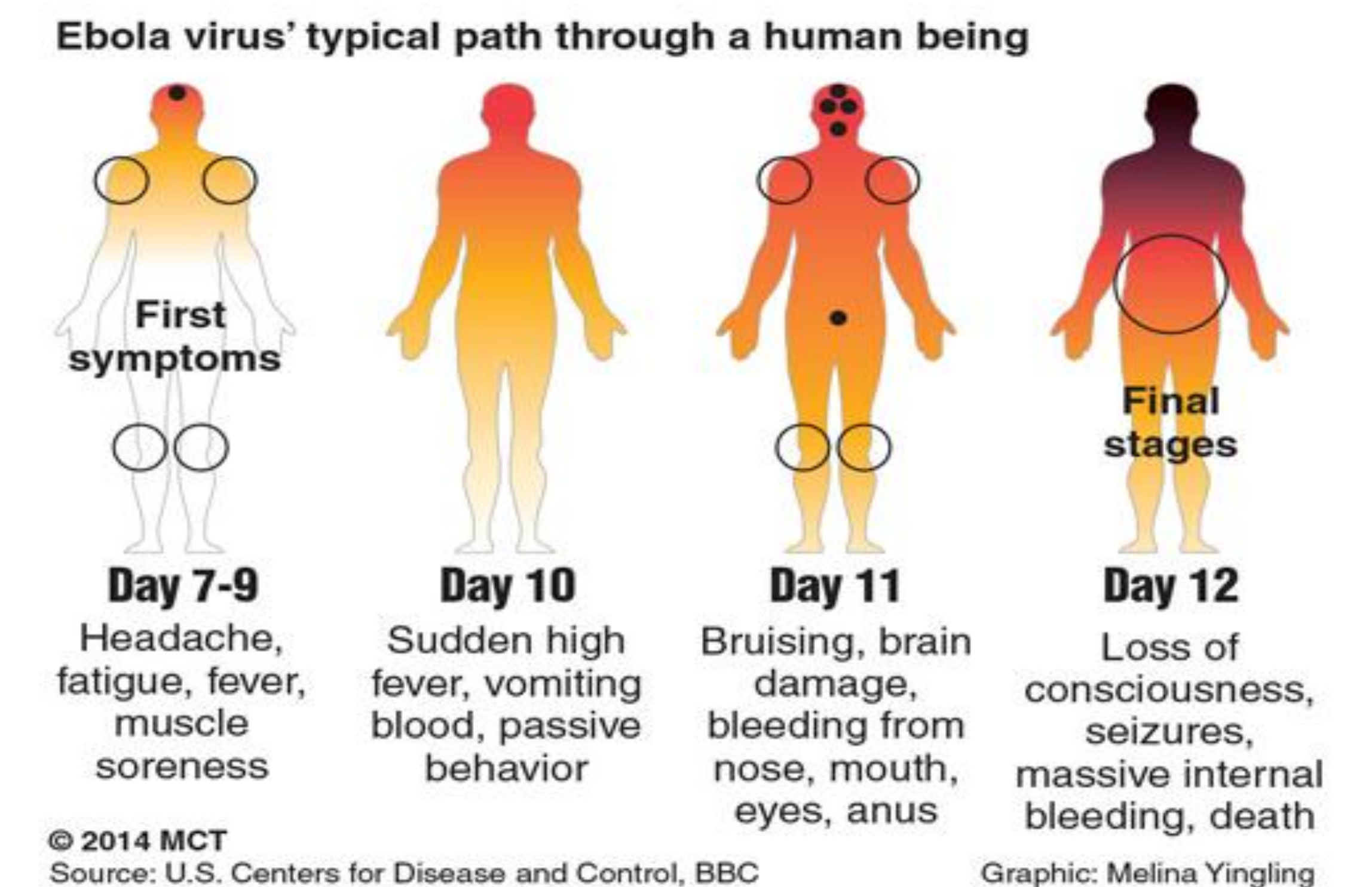
Duties of Each Group

- **Hospital Staff-** Trains locals for extra hospital help and manages known cases of Ebola. The hospital staff would also provide the lab work for diagnoses.
- **Field Work-** Provides safe and dignified burial for those who do not survive the disease. They also find new cases based on contact lists of known patients and trace those individuals to find those new cases. Anthropologists would be a member of this team under reviewed containment strategies.
- **Information-** An efficient information team is key to the successful containment of Ebola. All containment methods being with the cooperation of locals, which means that being able to spread information through trusted sources is foundational.

Miscellaneous Needs

- Due to the communication problems in developing countries teams must be decentralized and self sufficient.
- Hospitals must be able to triage their patients and keep those who are most sick in separate areas. Also needed are the involvement and training of local medical staff to provide long term care.
- Rebuild Health Care Systems of affected countries. For the benefit of patients with other illnesses- including Malaria, Tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS- health care systems need international funding to rebuild and improve.
- Continued research into treatments, vaccines and tests for the Ebola Virus Disease must continue to prevent future health care crises.

Ebola Incubation Diagram



- WHO needs to create an emergency fund to deal with global health issues.
- Containment of Ebola must be better organized so everyone remains efficient.
- Information and connection to local populations must be first priority in treating Ebola epidemics.

Conclusion

- In order to successfully eradicate Ebola in Western Africa we need to change how we approach containment.
- With out aggressive containment Ebola could become endemic to Western Africa and a potential global health threat.
- The WHO needs to be better equipped to respond to global health emergencies.

Works Cited

- Beaubien, Jason. "Critics Say Ebola Crisis Was WHO's Big Failure. Will Reform Follow?" NPR. NPR, 6 Feb. 2015. Web. 17 Apr. 2015. Website
- "Ebola: How to Recognize the Symptoms." CBSNews. CBS Interactive, 3 Oct. 2014. Web. 17 Apr. 2015. Website
- "Ebola:." Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) International. Médecins Sans Frontières, 29 Jan. 2015. Web. 17 Apr. 2015. Website
- "Ebola Response: What Needs to Happen in 2015." WHO. World Health Organization, 10 Jan. 2015. Web. 17 Apr. 2015. Website
- Pfeiffer, Sacha, and Lynn Jolicœur. "Ebola Causing 'Collapse Of The Health Care System' In West Africa, Boston Doctor Says." Ebola Causing Collapse Of The Health Care System In West Africa Boston Doctor Says RSS 20. American Public Media, 26 Sept. 2014. Web. 17 Apr. 2015. Website
- Waterman, Tara. "Brief General History of Ebola." Brief Ebola General History. Stanford University, 1999. Web. 17 Apr. 2015. Website
- "What We Do." WHO. World Health Organization, Web. 17 Apr. 2015.