

# Knowledge, Attitudes And Practices Towards Lassa Fever Among Health Care Workers In Faranah Health facilities in Guinea

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16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019  
Abuja, Nigeria

**DFG**

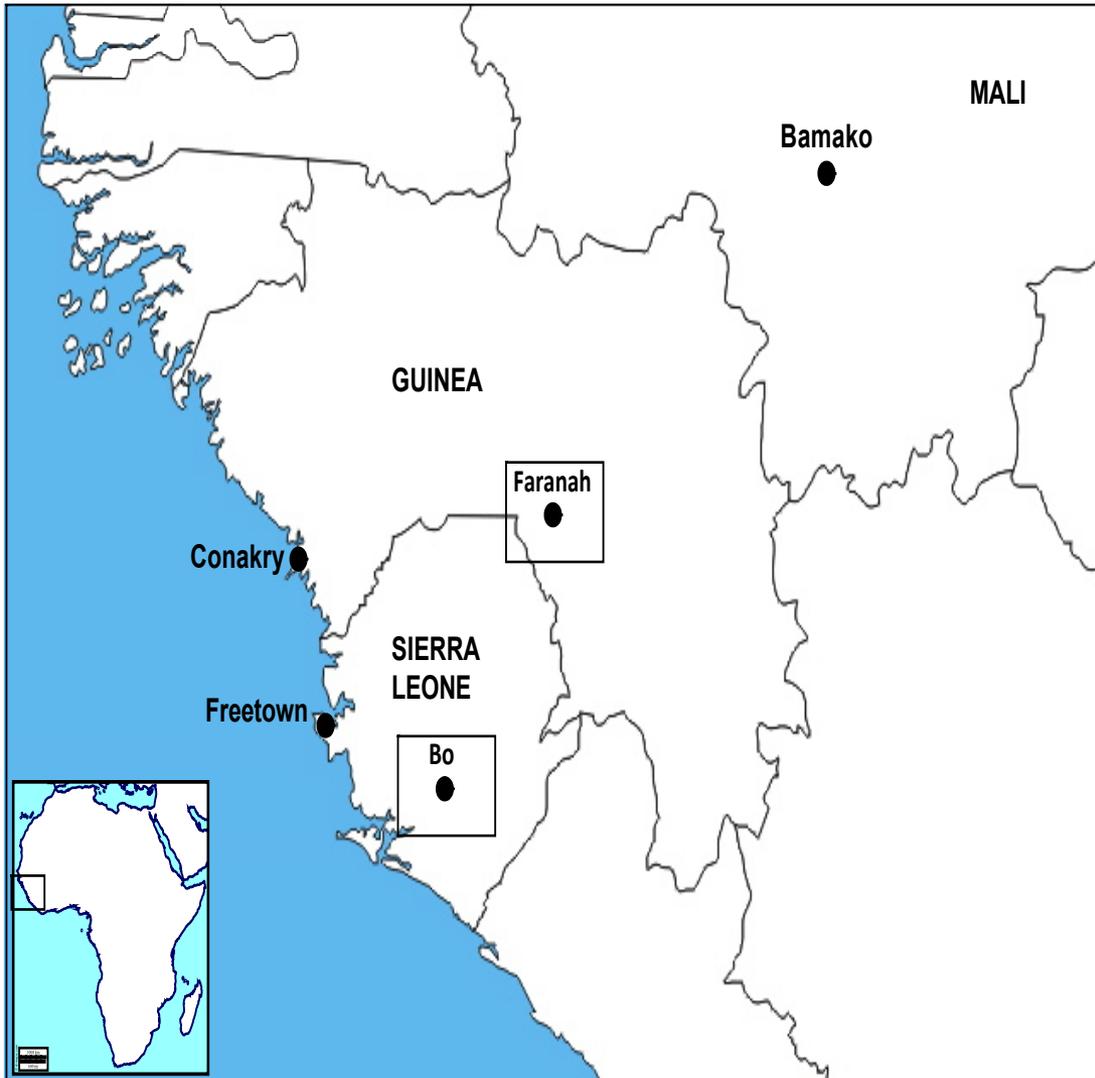
# Background & Objectives

- Lassa fever (LF) is a zoonotic acute viral haemorrhagic fever caused by the Lassa virus.
- Nosocomial infection with high case fatality rate has been described in the hospital settings in many West African countries including Guinea.
- Hospitalized patients with LF may pose a substantial risk to health care workers (HCWs) and to other patients.

## **General objective**

- To assess knowledge, attitudes and practices of HCWs and to determine factors influencing them in health facilities of Faranah district.

# Methods



## Study design

A descriptive cross-sectional survey with quantitative approach.

## Study sites

- 5 health facilities in Faranah district in upper Guinea.
  - ✓ The general hospital
  - ✓ 2 health centres in urban area
  - ✓ 2 health centres in rural area

## Study population

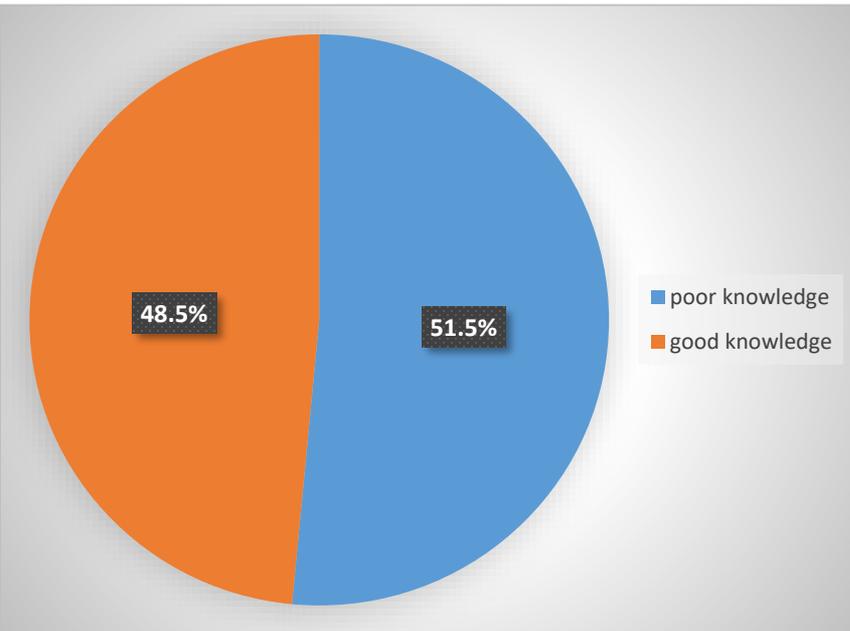
- ✓ Medical doctors
- ✓ Nurses
- ✓ Midwives,
- ✓ Laboratory scientists
- ✓ Pharmacists
- ✓ Professional students

## Sampling technique

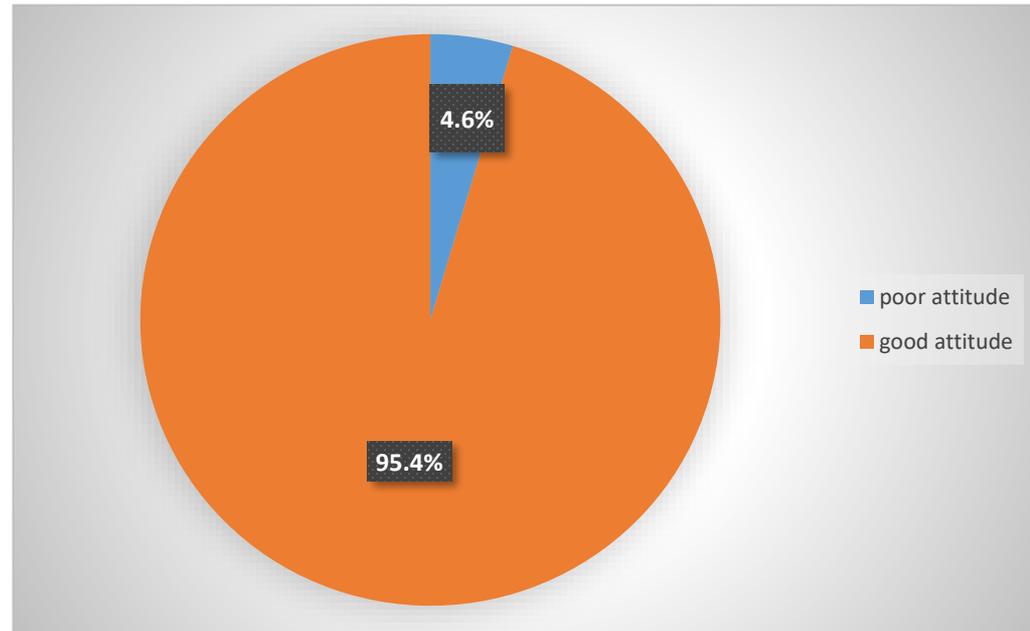
- All of the health care providers working in these 5 public health facilities.

# Results (1/4)

- **Sociodemographic characteristics of :**
  - Mean age of respondents was 30.4 years  $\pm$  7.7
  - Females 57.4% (112/195)
  - Married 64.6% (126/195)
  - Muslims 80.5% (157/195)
- Out of 195 respondents 32.3% (63/195) had previously not heard of LF.



48.5 % (64/132) had adequate knowledge about LF ( $p = 50\%$ ; 95% CI = 0.4 – 0.6).



95% (125/132) positive attitudes towards a suspected case of LF ( $p = 95\%$ ; 95% CI = 0.91 – 0.97).

# Results (2/4)

## From Chi square and simple logistic analysis

- **Socio-demographic characteristics associated with knowledge were:**
  - Sex ( $p < 0.001$ )
  - Marital status ( $p < 0.001$ )
  - Number of years of work ( $p < 0.001$ )
  - Type of facility ( $p = 0.03$ )
  - Availability of PPE ( $p < 0.001$ )
  - Training of the personnel on LF ( $p = 0.004$ )
  - Training of the personnel on VHF ( $p < 0.001$ ).
- **Factors that were found to be significantly associated with Attitude were;**
  - Location of facility ( $p = 0.02$ )
  - Availability of PPE ( $p = 0.001$ )

# Results (3/4)

## From multiple logistic regression analysis done for knowledge

- Females had reduced odds of having adequate knowledge, aOR= 0.4(0.2-0.8) as compared to males.
- Nurses, aOR= 0.04 (0.004-0.3); Student, aOR= 0.06(0.007-0.5); Midwives, aOR= 0.05 (0.007-0.4) had reduced odds of having adequate knowledge on LF as compared to medical doctors.
- Training of HCWs on LF increased the odds of having adequate knowledge on LF, aOR= 14.1(2.3-86.4).

# Results (4/4)

**From multiple logistic regression analysis done on Attitude,**

## **Location of facility**

Health professionals in Rural health facilities had significant reduction in their odds of having positive attitudes towards LF aOR=0.06 (0.01 - 0.4) as compared to those in Urban facilities

## **Availability of PPE**

Non availability of PPE reduced the odds of having positive attitude towards LF, aOR= 0.06(0.01-0.4)

# Conclusion

- The study revealed a general low level of knowledge of LF disease among the HCWs.
- Most of the HCWs had good attitudes and all of them had good practices.
- Age and number of years of work were found to influence knowledge but not attitudes and practices.
- There was not statistical significant difference between the KAP of health providers working in the general hospital compare to the one of those who were working in the health centres.
- HCWs in urban health centres had better attitudes compare to those in the rural ones.

Thank you!

