RESULTS

CESAREAN DELIVERIES
- Modest steady increase in number of cesarean deliveries pre-epidemic
- Number of cesareans fell by 81% to 11 in the quarter of maximum EVD incidence.
- During the last quarter, number of cesareans almost tripled, but still ~28% below levels seen in April-June.

VAGINAL DELIVERIES, ANTENATAL HIV TESTS, POSTNATAL CARE 24-48 HRS POSTPARTUM
- Rose steadily from Jan 2013 through May 2014
- Peak EVD incidence coincided with
  - 14% decline in number of institutional deliveries
  - 17% decline in number of women attending postnatal care within 24-48 hours of delivery.
  - 25% decline in antenatal HIV tests
  - As EVD incidence waned, provision and access of these three services rose by 9% to 20%, staying 8% to 11% below the pre-EVD levels of highest utilization.

CONTRACEPTIVES
- Numbers of women receiving oral and injection contraceptives were also impacted during peak EVD incidence
  - 13% decline in receipt of oral
  - 19% decline in receipt of injected
  - Numbers receiving these contraceptives rose by 6% and 32% during the decline in EVD incidence, remaining 16% and 8% below times of highest utilization.

CONCLUSIONS
- The EVD epidemic devastated the Sierra Leone HC workforce.
- Peak EVD reporting coincided with significant declines in essential RH/MCH services in Kenema.
- Modest recovery of service utilization occurred after the worst of the epidemic
- Pre-epidemic levels were not attained.

This analysis suggests an unexpected resilience in one of the most fragile healthcare systems in the world.

Recommendations
- Support the recovery of critical services
- Publicize and incentivize the return to service provision of Kenema HCWs
- Maintenance of active surveillance for EVD
- Strengthen infection prevention and control services to protect HCWs and patients in Kenema facilities.

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