

Health Decision-Making and Care Seeking Among Village Householders in Kibona, Uganda

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27th International Nursing Research Congress, July 21-25, 2016

Cape Town, South Africa

Faculty Disclosure

Faculty Name: Olivia Catolico

Conflicts of Interest: None

Employer: Dominican University of California, San Rafael, California, 94901

Sponsorship/Commercial Support: The faculty has not received any sponsorship or commercial support regarding the information to be presented

Session Goal and Objectives

Overview of descriptive study of decision-making and care seeking, Kibona parish

- Identify key decision maker
- Determine when care is sought
- Describe first line of care and help seeking

Uganda



Mbarara



Kibona Parish

Introduction and Background

- What prompted this study
- Community assessment
- Levels of care delivery
 - Government (clinic, hospital)
 - Private



Method

- Study participants
- Interview guide
- Interpreters
- Location



Family Household Constellations

Numbers of persons in family household	Percentage represented among total study households
1-4 persons	33%
5-7 persons	42%
8-10 persons	18%
11-14 persons	7%
Total participant households 58	Total 100%

Key Household Decision Maker in Event of Illness

Decision Maker	Percentage represented among total study households
Grandparents	11%
Intergenerational	3%
Parents	53%
Other identified adult	23%
Self	3%
No response	7%
	Total 100%

Recognition of Signs and Symptoms of Illness

Signs and symptoms	Percentage of HoH/DM recognizing illness
Fever	18%
Cough	16%
Headache	14%
Poor feeding	8%
Loss of appetite	8%
Bodily changes	8%
Generalized weakness	7%
Malaria	7%

Signs and symptoms	Percentage of HoH/DM recognizing illness
Pain (abdominal)	5%
Pain (limbs, joints, difficulty walking)	5%
Chills	1%
Skin wounds, rash, allergies	1%
Diarrhea	1%
Pregnancy threat	1%
Total	100%

When Help is Sought

Identification of a specific point or time within course of illness	Percentage of HoH reporting point or time when help is sought
"Worsening symptoms"	25%
Descriptions of sequencing	22%
"[Go to] Hospital immediately"	19%
Developmental, situational	7%
Loss of function	1%
No responses	26%
Total	100%

Who is Sought First

Identification of first source of help	Percentage of HoH/DM reporting first sources of help
Kibona clinic, Mbarara clinic	32%
Government hospital	21%
Family	16%
Informal network (neighbors, friends)	7%
Traditional healer	7%
Other (aid organizations)	2%
Had no first source of help	15%
Total	100%

Care from First Help Source

Care provided	Percentage of HoH/DM reporting care provided
Gives medications, injections	7%
Provides transport to clinical, hospital	5%
Provides herbs	5%
Staff at hospital provides care	3%
Buys pain killers	2%
Gives advice	2%
"Do what I can to care for self"	2%
No responses (reframed question)	74%
Total	100%

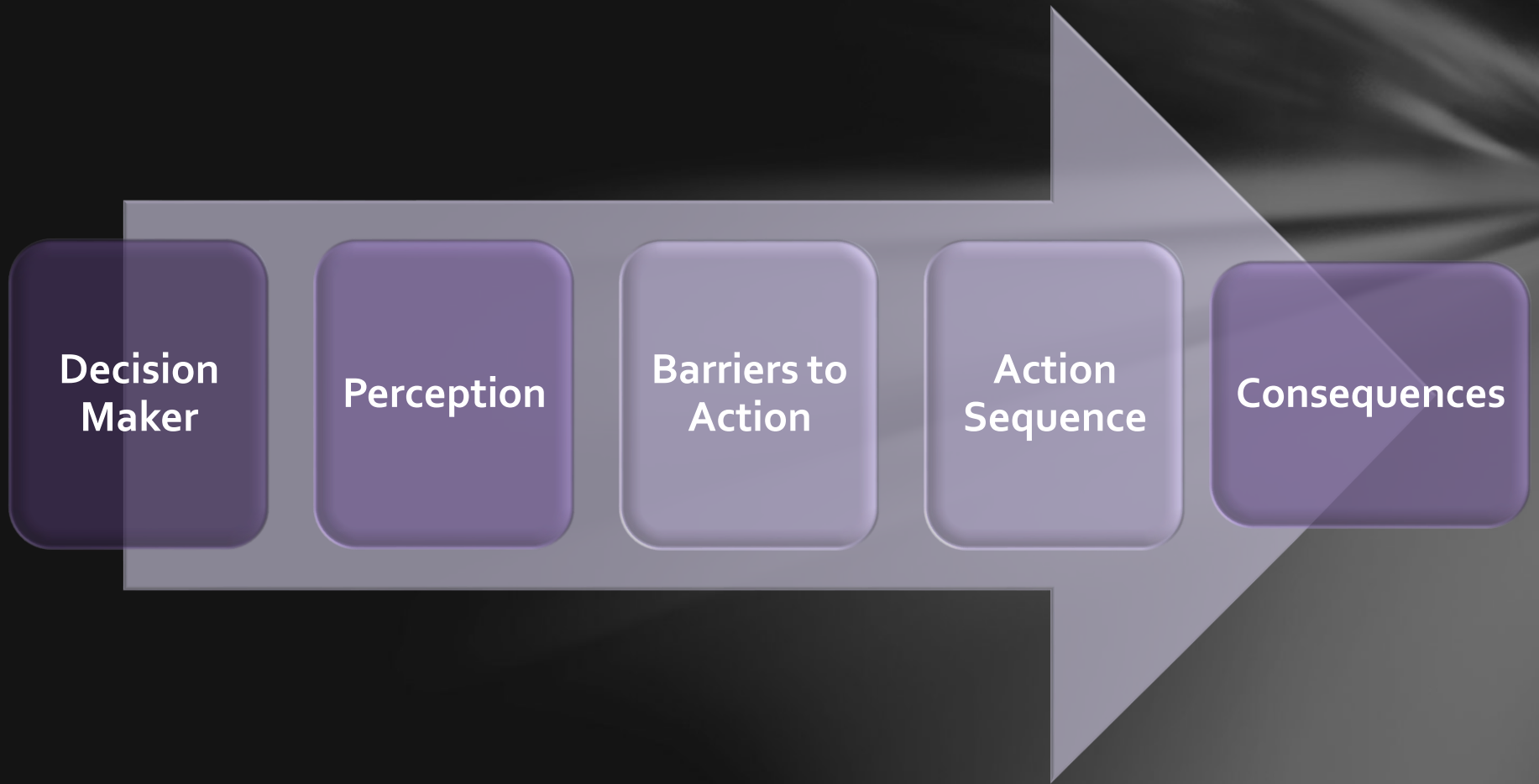
Barriers to Obtaining Help

- Transportation
 - Travel by foot, or “boda-boda” or car at cost
- Money
 - “Have car but no money to buy gas”
- Lack of services or medications
 - Clinic closed
 - Referred to distant facilities
 - No medications available or dispensed

Variability in Personal Health Practices: Water, Sanitation, Hygiene

- Water obtained from bore hole
- Boil/do not boil drinking water
- Hand hygiene before eating but not after using the bathroom
- Use/do not use mosquito nets

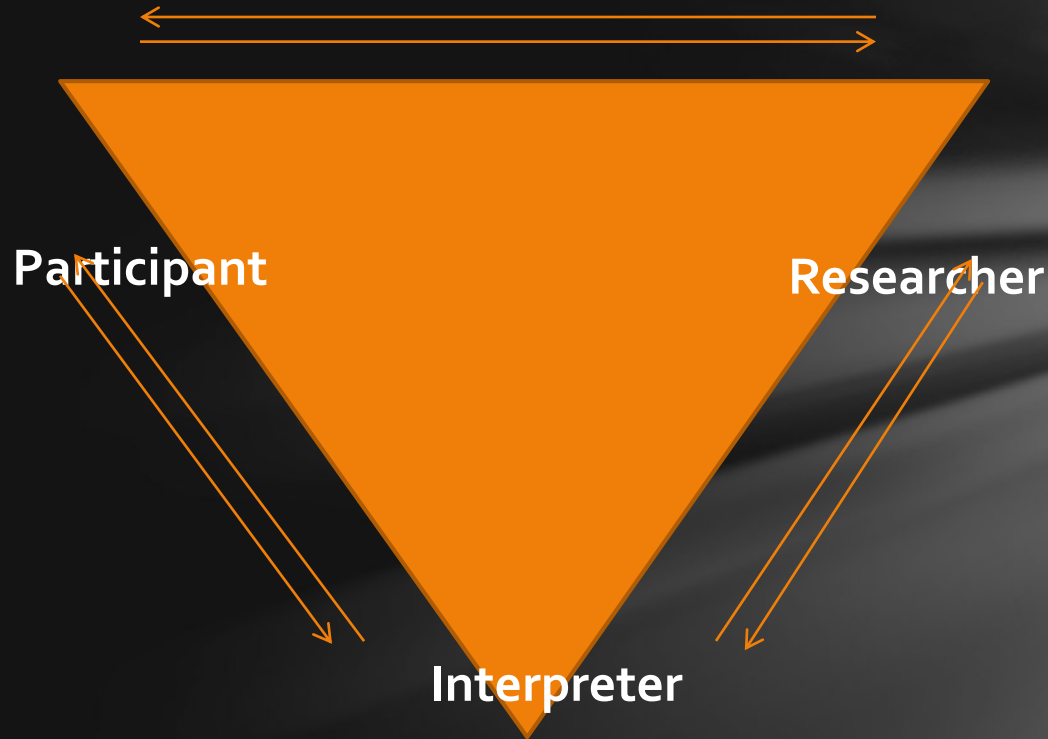
Patterns of Decision Making



Barriers to Action



Communication and Interpretation



Follow-up Home Visits



Conclusion and Implications

- Families seek out and want effective care and treatment from healthcare facilities and professionals
- Barriers to effective and timely care include limited personal resources and external resources
- There is ongoing need in this specific parish for health promotion practices that can be sustained and integrated into ways of life

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