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## **Ebola and Health Partnerships, Action in a Time of Crisis**

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Additional information is available at the end of the chapter

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### **Abstract**

The chapter explores the role of health partnerships in delivering services throughout the West African Ebola Virus Disease epidemic, including the creation of the Ministry of Health & Sanitation Ebola Holding Unit models, command and control structures, research into diagnostics and care pathways, and general medical care. It will highlight how this provided resilience during the Ebola response, and how this will aid health systems strengthening going forward.

**Keywords:** ebola, health partnership, impact, resilience, sustainable

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### **1. Introduction to partnership working & existing health structure in Sierra Leone**

In 2014, Connaught Hospital and the King's Sierra Leone Partnership (KSPL) were at the epicentre of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak in West Africa and, given the unprecedented nature of disease spread, had to develop new approaches to managing the clinical response. This chapter explores our model of Ebola Holding Units (EHUs) within government hospitals, including the role of international partnerships, how to maintain general health services during an outbreak and the importance of effective command and control. We discuss how to conduct research

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