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USING DIGITAL METHODS IN EPIDEMIOLOGY TO ADDRESS DISEASE CONTROL IN SUB SAHARAN AFRICA: EXPERIENCES AND PERSPECTIVES OF DOCTORS WITH AFRICA CUAMM

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Novel digital methods in epidemiology are increasingly used in Africa and concurrent with major changes in the burden, dynamics and distributions of diseases, both infectious and chronic. These methods include, among others: GPS for geolocation and navigation, mathematical modelling, digital computation and data storage, genomic sequencing and analysis. Doctors with Africa CUAMM, an Italian NGO operating in various african countries, has recently experienced some of these methods in collaboration with their developers, by applying them in real life settings such as: Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone, measles vaccination in Ethiopia, distribution of maternal care units in Tanzania, malaria control in South Sudan. Aim of the contribution is to learn from these experiences by showing the potential impact of these new approaches to ensure that are addressing questions that are most relevant in disease control.

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