**03A.1 Traditional healer in Mbengu village**

**Community engagement case-scenario – Facilitator guide**

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| TYPE OF ACTIVITY | Case-scenario |
| LEARNING OBJECTIVES | At the end of this activity, participants will be able to:   * Explain the importance of populations' traditional believes and perceptions with regards to illness/Ebola * Identify ways to address traditional believes and perceptions with regards to illness/Ebola * Identify ways to engage traditional healers in giving basic information to villagers about Ebola. |
| SUGGESTED TIME | 60’ |
| STEPS | * Divide the participants into groups (5’) * Read the instructions for the exercise (5’) * Group work (20’) * Ask the group members to share their responses and present them during plenary (20’) * Highlight key messages (10’) |

**A. The situation**

The traditional healer in Mbengu village is about to close the clinic when a family arrives with Dukola who is a very ill 34-year-old, man. He can hardly walk with assistance from two people. Dukola is complaining about headache, fever and muscle pain and lack of appetite; and has been doing so for 2 days. He also has some abnormal pain. One of the family members reported that she thinks Dukola he has been bewitched by a relative who is jealous because his fish farming is running well.

This is the first time that he has been ill. His wife Sarafina is worried and believes her husband has contracted Ebola and is very anxious that he would die. Mbegu's family cannot take him to hospital and no other solution can be found as there is no cure for Ebola. Infact, the traditional healer says the World Health Organization announced from the local radio station that there is no cure for Ebola. *“I have the cure myself boldly”,* said*. “I put a powerful medicine on the wrist and waist of my patients and the disease disappears.”* Many sick people from neighboring villages have consulted Vuma, the traditional healer is a respectable and trusted person and has helped sick people attacked by the evil spirits.

**B. Questions**

1. What would you advise Mbegu family to do? List all measures recommended.
2. What would you do to help other villagers to who are experiencing the similar situation like Mbengu family today?
3. How would you involve/ engage traditional healers in giving basic information about Ebola, cause, sign and symptoms, preventive measures?
4. How would you address traditional healers concerns, believes, perceptions about Ebola?