Thinks that levels of knowledge that are perceived to be low among VHTs in Uganda include:
- Little perceived knowledge of stroke
- Little perceived knowledge of heart disease
- Little perceived knowledge of hypertension
- Little perceived knowledge of Type 2 diabetes
- Perceived cardiovascular disease becoming more common in Uganda

**METHODS**

- Interviewer-administered knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) questionnaire to 68 VHT members from Iganga and Mayuge districts in rural Eastern Uganda.
- Four focus group discussions (FGDs) with 33 VHT members. Discussions focused on NCD knowledge and facilitators of, and barriers to, incorporating NCD prevention and care into their role. A thematic analysis was conducted to identify salient themes emerging from the data.

**RESULTS**

Sample characteristics of VHTs from KAP questionnaires:

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**CONCLUSIONS**

- Ugandan VHTs saw themselves as having the potential to play an important role in improving community awareness of NCDs as well as monitoring and referral of community members for NCD-related health issues.
- To accomplish this, they anticipated requiring context-specific and culturally adapted training as well as strong partnerships with facility-based medical personnel.
- A lack of financial incentivization was not identified to be a major barrier to such role expansion.
- Developing a role for VHTs in NCD prevention and management should be a key consideration as local and national NCD initiatives are developed.