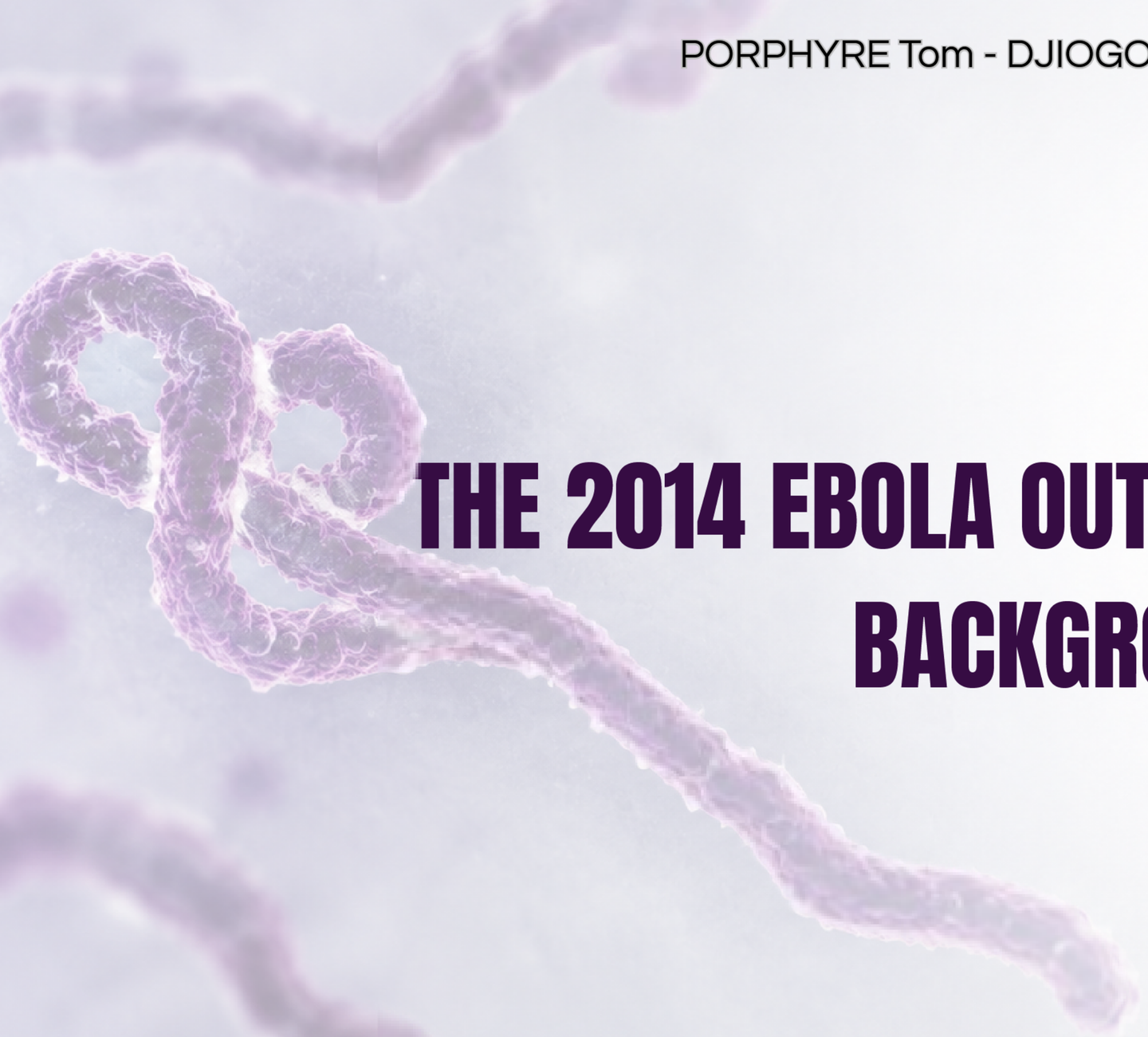
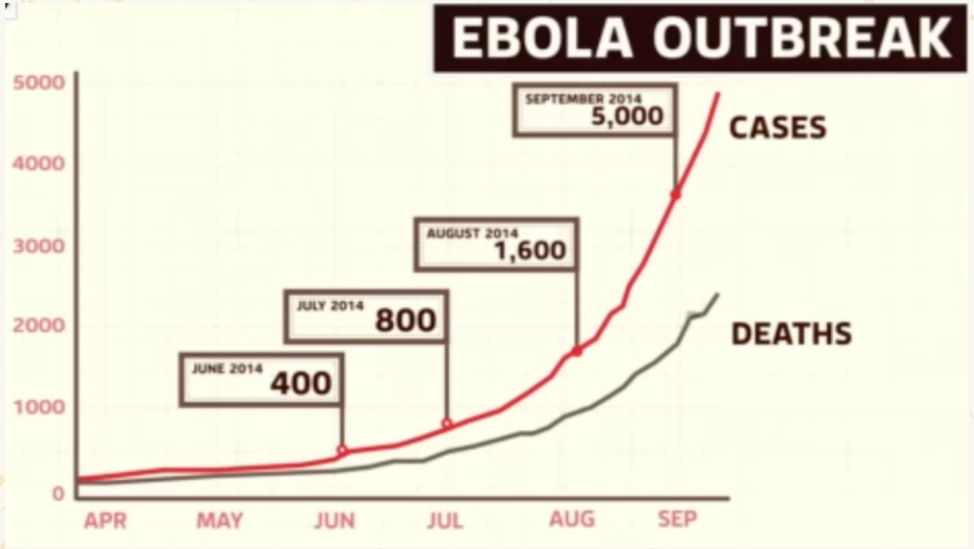
PORPHYRE Tom - DJIOGO Leticia



THE 2014 EBOLA OUTBREAK CONTEXT & BACKGROUND

CONCEPT 1: EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SPREAD

Patient Zero:
The epidemic is traced back to a single source, believed to be a two-year-old boy in rural Guinea.



Cross-border transmission:
The virus easily spread over borders into neighboring countries (Liberia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Senegal).

Exponential Growth:
Once the virus reached crowded urban areas, the number of cases began to rise exponentially, going from 400 in June to 5,000 by the time of the report.

CONCEPT 2: CONTAINMENT MEASURES

- **Lockdowns:** Implementation of extreme measures, such as a three-day lockdown in Sierra Leone, confining people to their homes to slow the spread.
- **Identification & Isolation:** Lockdowns allow health workers to safely identify who is sick and isolate them from the healthy population.
- **The Quarantine Challenge:** It is incredibly difficult to quarantine entire countries and tens of thousands of exposed people.



CONCEPT 3: MEDICAL INNOVATION IN A CRISIS

Experimental Drugs: Use of drugs like ZMapp, which contains three different antibodies and is grown in genetically modified tobacco plants.

Hyper Immune Plasma: Using the blood plasma of recovered patients to treat new victims, as their antibody levels are very high.

Fast-tracking Trials: Vaccine trials that usually take up to a year to start were pushed through regulatory approval in just four days due to the top-priority emergency.



CONCEPT 4 : RESOLUTIONS TAKEN

To address this pandemic in West Africa, the United States has promised to:

- Built treatment centers
- Train health workers every week
- Provide health and testing kits

VOCABULARY & PRONUNCIATION TIPS

Gruesome (adjective): Very unpleasant and filling you with horror.
Pronunciation: /ˈgruː.səm/ (GROO-sum) - Do not pronounce the "e".

Spread (verb/noun): To extend over a wider area, or the process of something (like a disease) reaching more people or places.

Pronunciation: /spred/ (SPRED) - The "ea" is pronounced like the "e" in "bed", not like "eat".

Antibodies (noun): Proteins produced by the body to fight infections.
Pronunciation: /ˈæn.ti ˌbɒd.iz/ (AN-tee-bod-eez).

Exponentially (adverb): Increasing very rapidly.
Pronunciation: /ˌek.spəˈnen.ʃəl.i/ (ex-po-NEN-shul-lee).

Outbreak (noun): The sudden start of a disease.
Pronunciation: /ˈaʊt.breɪk/ (OUT-brake).

VOCABULARY & PRONUNCIATION TIPS

Constraints (noun) : Things that limit or restrict your freedom or actions, such as being stuck at home.
Pronunciation : /kənˈstreɪnts/ (kun-STRAINTS) - The stress is on the second syllable.

Overwhelmed (adjective): Feeling that there is too much to handle.
Pronunciation: /ˌəʊ.vəˈwelmd/ (oh-ver-WELMD) - The "ed" is pronounced like a "d"

Spookier (adjective, comparative): More frightening in a strange or mysterious way.

Pronunciation: /ˈspuː.ki.ər/ (SPOO-kee-er)

Quarantine (noun/verb): Isolation to prevent the spread of disease.
Pronunciation: /ˈkwɒr.ən.tiːn/ (KWOR-un-teen).

Lockdown (noun): A situation in which people are not allowed to leave or enter a place freely, usually for safety reasons.
Pronunciation: /ˈlɒk.daʊn/ (LOK-down)