



UAV use cases: Potential applications in Ukerewe Islands, Tanzania

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 - Routes
- Potential health impact (example of blood)





Research questions

- 1. What are the most cost-effective use cases and number of UAVs required for each use case?
- 2. Between which origins and destinations does delivery by UAV make most sense?
- 3. What are the number of flight estimates per use cased for a specified time period, e.g., monthly?





Summary of Key Findings

- Examining commodity categories individually, costs are higher to deliver all categories by UAV
- Layering use cases can provide efficiencies and cost savings by allocating fixed costs across a greater number of flights and maximizing utilization in terms of capacity and time
- Public transport is widely used for public sector transport and is relatively inexpensive, keeping transport costs low. UAVs are most cost effective on routes to distant facilities on the small islands and between the DH and Mwanza.
- While still higher cost, the most cost effective use case examples include lab samples to selected destinations and life-saving items and blood deliveries.
- Deployment of drones to delivery emergency blood for transfusion at health facilities in Ukerewe island reduces the number of deaths by almost 80% compared to traditional transport





BACKGROUND





Overview of Ukerewe Islands

- 38 small islands: 34 are inhabited; 15 have permanent settlements; 6 islands have health facilities.
- 37 facilities: I district hospital, 4 health centers, 32 dispensaries
- Total population is 412,621 (Census 2012 projections for 2018).







Health facilities in Ukerewe







Ukerewe represents distribution challenges





Local boats are used to transport health products between islands





Roads on the islands are also a challenge....





Process used to answer research questions

Collected data

- Mapped the various flows of products, and identified who is responsible and who pays for each flow
- Extracted data from the electronic logistics management information systems (eLMIS) on product consumption, and products out of stock
- Obtained transport costs for each product flow
- Conducted visits to health facilities in Ukerewe
 - Validated product flows, consumption and stockouts, transport costs, and any other gaps in data
- Utilized analytical tool to run scenarios to determine most cost-effective use cases, routing, and flight estimates
- Conducted health impact analysis, focusing on blood for
 transfusion









How products get **IN UKEREWE**

TO HEALTH FACILITIES

Products move through a variety of systems to reach health facilities in Ukerewe

Product segment	Primary manager of the system
All essential medicines routinely ordered, through the Integrated Logistics System (ILS), and includes a variation for tuberculosis (TB)	Medical Stores Department (MSD), the parastatal entity responsible for distribution to all public sector facilities
Emergency orders (includes any essential medicine ordered outside of routine orders)	MSD
Vaccines	Immunization and Vaccine Department (IVD)
Blood for transfusion, includes samples for testing and whole blood for transfusion	National Blood Transfusion Services
Laboratory samples (blood for viral load testing, sputum samples for TB, dried blood spots for early infant diagnosis of HIV, samples for biopsy testing, etc)	Diagnostics Services Section





Routine distribution



Who pays:

Facilities pay a delivery fee to MSD (MSD paid by MOH in advance and hence deduct the delivery fee) For vertical program items (ARVs, malaria, etc), donors pay MSD a distribution fee (% value of the medicines supplied)

Who does:

MSD distributes directly to facilities; except for Tuberculosis & Leprosy medicines which are picked up from the district hospital by health facility staff or distributed using DMO vehicle

Given high volumes for routine distribution, this was not considered during analysis





Emergency orders



Commodity flow is direct from MSD to health facility

Who pays:

Facility staff/district staff – round trip transport + cargo fees

MSD covers costs to transport from MSD Zone to the ferry

Delivery fee depends on the weight/ volume , mode of transportation used & number of days a staff stay in Mwanza

Who does:

MSD transports from the warehouse to the ferry Health facility staff travel to the ferry in Mwanza to collect, then back to their facilities







Routine distribution from Regional to district done by RIVO; Cost included in the RMO annual budget

Routine distribution from District to facility done by DIVO: Cost budgeted in CCHP







Regional vaccine store located at RMO office within Sekoutoure regional hospital, the district store is at Nansio DH

In cases of vaccines shortages at the district level, the district vaccine officer travels to Mwanza using public transport (ferry + taxi)

For emergencies at the health facility level, the health facility staff travel to the District Vaccine Store with a cold box to pick up the vaccine





Blood for transfusion: samples for testing and whole blood for transfusion



Lab sample transport



Notes:

Samples must be processed not more than 5 hours after collection Samples need to reach testing lab no later than 5 days after collection

Samples:

HIV viral load, DBS, hematology, chemistry, sputum samples for TB testing, histology samples Each hub: 50-100 samples/week

POSTA does the collection of samples from health facilities and deliver lab results back. POSTA is contracted by AGPAHI (Implementing Partner) to do the pickup and delivery of results

In few cases health care workers collects the samples to the hub.





Other findings from field visits

- Life saving medicines were available (Mg sulphate, oxytocin inj, IV fluid, Artesunate inj), no stock out in 2019. Redistribution is a quick fix of stock out
- Only 4 blood transfusion centers in the district
- Antivenom only kept at district hospital; all snakebite cases referred to the DH cause are expensive and there are low sporadic demand & anemia cases to the centers.
- Delayed delivery of orders from prime vendors, most facilities hesitate to procure from PV
- Free transportation of whole blood by some transport agents; bus & ferry as part of corporate social responsibility







STATUS QUO TRANSPORTATION COSTS





Key assumptions and parameters used to estimate cost of current transport system

Key assumptions

- 2 years historical demand by quarter
- 2 years stock out rates by quarter
- Historical case load for selected patient emergencies
- Current modes, days, detailed costs to distribute commodities
 - Between Mwanza and Ukerewe District Hospital and facilities
 - Between Ukerewe District Hospital and facilities

Commodities types included

- All vaccines (routine distribution)
- Life-saving items
 - Oxytocin for post-partum hemorrhage (PPH)
 - Magnesium sulphate for eclampsia and pre-eclampsia during childbirth
 - Rabies and anti-venom serum
 - IV fluids for fluid replacement in cases of cholera outbreak
 - Artesunate injection for severe malaria
- Lab samples
 - VL testing and DBS strips
- Blood for transfusion and samples





Estimated trips and costs were grouped by destination, as it is a determinant of demand, number of trips, and costs

Category	Total Trips	Cost/Trip	Ann. Cost	Volume/Trip (L)	Assumptions
Vaccines					Quarterly distribution to DH (1 distribution
District Hospital	12	226	2,717	38,849	requires 3 trips each); Monthly distribution from DH to all facilities
Big Island	312	27	8,576	349	using milk runs (visiting multiple facilities in
Small Islands	108	49	5,261	349	one outing)
Life-Saving Items					Includes oxytocin, mag sulphate, artesunate,
District Hospital	0	107	0	- 0 -	and IV fluids sourced from DH. No stockouts at DH for these items
Big Island-near	80	1	104	1.5	Rabies & anti-venom are sourced from
Big Island-far	180	24	4,383	1.5	MSD/vendor and are in addition to these
Small Islands	90	74	6,665	1.5	trips, costs, and volumes. Details provided later in this document.
Lab Sample Pickup					DH: 3 trips per week;
District Hospital	144	107	15,402	4.0	HFs send samples 1+ times / week; "Near" facilities are within 10 km drive of
Big Island-near	1,152	1	1,503	0.6	DH, no per diem, low delivery cost
Big Island-far	2,592	24	63,110	0.6	
Small Islands	468	74	34,660	1.2	
Blood					Only 3 health centers and the hospital
District Hospital	48	107	5,134	6.0	carry out blood transfusion services; DH transports samples only to Mwanza:
Big Island	192	26	4,925	4.2	no routine blood distribution from
Small Islands	96	78	7,496	9.6	Mwanza (only for rare blood types)



er unp and annual costs in ODD, exchange rate i ODD - 2000 rZon. mere may be some errors due to rounding



ANALYSIS AND RESULTS





Summary of key findings

- Examining commodity categories individually, costs are higher to deliver all categories by UAV.
 - Categories with very high quantities of products result in relatively low cost per flight but significantly more flights and UAVs required to deliver the same quantities as the status quo. The net results are higher costs
 - Small volumes and infrequent demand results in few flights with high costs per flight
- Layering use cases can provide efficiencies and cost savings.
 - The base case absorbs fixed costs and startup capital costs, while additional layered use cases incur incremental operations costs
 - Increasing the number of flights per UAV reduces overall per flight costs
 - Combining products per flight maximizes capacity (It or kg) of vehicle
- UAVs are most cost effective on routes to distant facilities, including to facilities on the small islands, and routes between the District Hospital and Mwanza.
- While still overall higher cost, the most cost effective examples include
 - Lab samples are lower cost for selected routes and the lowest percent increase
 - Life-saving items and blood are the lowest dollar increase





Summary of key figures

Annual Values

Category	Destination	Liters Delivered	Kgs Delivered	Current Costs	Cost/ trip	UAV Costs	Cost/ flight	No. Flights
Vaccines	District Hospital	466,188	200,081	2,717	226	1,660,409	33	50,028
	All Health Facilities	4,188	62,910	13,837	33	78,878	5	15,960
	All Facilities			16,554	38	1,739,287	26	65,988
Life-Saving	District Hospital (a)	3	1	1,336	111	2,654	221	12
(incl. Rabies)	All Health Facilities	542	291	19,259	46	78,253	186	420
	All Facilities (b)			20,595	48	80,907	187	432
	District Heavital	570	445	15 402	407	46 774	110	1 1 1
Lab Samples	District Hospital	576	115	15,402	107	16,//1	116	144
	All Health Facilities	3,370	983	99,272	24	316,560	75	4,212
	All Facilities (c)			114,674	26	333,331	77	4,356
Blood	District Hospital	288	58	5,134	107	10,618	221	48
	All Health Facilities	1,987	994	12,422	43	69,977	182	384
	All Facilities (b)			17,555	52	80,595	187	432

a) No stock outs of selected life-saving commodities recorded at the DH during the period reviewed.

b) Higher percentage increase over current costs, but lower dollar increase

c) Lower percentage increases over current costs, but higher dollar increase

Cost to deliver to future health facilities is assumed to be same as All Health Facilities cost per trip or per flight.





Additional assumptions and parameters used to estimate cost of UAV transport system

UAV specifications, capabilities, costs (data as of late 2017)

- Cargo capacity 12 L and 4 kg
- Range 100 kms
- Equipment life cycles 1,000

Costs

- Initial capital \$75,000/ UAV
- Cost per UAV incurred in year 1
- Variable costs include staff time, electricity, internet, maintenance

Road network circuity factor vs straight line flight path: 1.6

Health facilities on the Big Island are segmented according to distance from distribution point:

- Near: within 10km driving from DH (8 facilities). These facilities reach the DH quickly and do not incur costs for per diem or full days of staff time
- Far: further than I0km driving from DH (18 facilities)

2 hrs on average to complete 1 flight, including prep, pack/unpack, flight = 1,200 max flights per UAV/ year





Delivery of vaccines + supplies by UAV would require considerably more resources than the current system

Status Quo Transport Costs

Destinations	Trips/Year	Avg Cost/ Trip	Ann. Cost	Vol (L)/ trip	Wt (kg)/ trip
District Hospital	12	226	2,717	38,849	16,673
Big Island	312	27	8,576	349	150
Small Islands	108	49	5,261	349	150
All Facilities	432	38	16,554		

UAV Transport Costs for Equivalent Volumes

Destinations	Flts/Year	Avg Cost/ Flt	Ann. Cost	Vol (L)/ flt	Wt (kg)/flt
District Hospital	50,028	33	1,660,409	9.3	4
Big Island	11,856	4	45,164	9.3	4
Small Islands	4,104	8	33,714	9.3	4
All Facilities	65,988	26	1,739,287		

Status quo costs reflect operating costs only; no capital or depreciation is included. UAV costs do not include initial capital investment or depreciation to enable comparison of equivalents

Includes all routine vaccines as well as diluents, syringes, and safety boxes.

Status quo uses cold boxes and vaccine carriers. UAV uses packaged unit weights and dimensions, and includes a buffer for appropriate packaging during the flight.

- Due to the large quantities (incl. diluents and supplies) the UAV system would require a multiple of more than 100 flights per land trip to deliver the same quantity.
- The high number of flights drives down the average cost per flight, but savings are outweighed by the number of flights required.
- Vaccines + diluents are approx. 10% of total vaccine volume (L).
 Delivering these items to facilities separately from the supplies is still more than 3 times the current costs (approx. \$40k).





Delivery of life-saving items could be combined with other items due to infrequent demand and low capacity requirements

Status Quo Transport Costs – excluding Rabies vaccine

Destinations	Trips/Year	Avg Cost/ Trip	Ann. Cost	Vol (L)/ trip	Wt (kg)/ trip
District Hospital	0	107	0	0	0
Big Island-near	80	1	104	1.5	0.82
Big Island-far	180	24	4,383	1.5	0.82
Small Islands	90	74	6,665	1.5	0.82
All Facilities	350	32	11,152		

UAV Transport Costs for Equivalent Volumes – excluding Rabies vaccine

Destinations	Flts/Year	Avg Cost/ Flt	Ann. Cost	Vol (L)/ flt	Wt (kg)/flt
District Hospital	0	221	0	0	0
Big Island-near	80	176	14,041	1.5	0.82
Big Island-far	180	181	32,554	1.5	0.82
Small Islands	90	185	16,685	1.5	0.82
All Facilities	350	181	63,280*		

* Capital cost shared with rabies and anti-venom serum. See next slide for combined costs.

Status quo uses public transport, considered an "all inclusive" cost. UAV costs are inclusive of capital investment and depreciation to enable comparison.

All products sourced from the DH. No stock outs at DH for these items during the period reviewed.

- Infrequent needs and small quantities results in few flights, meaning more fixed costs are born by each flight and provides little opportunity for savings.
- Low number of flights and small volume also means annual quantities can be delivered using only one UAV.
- Capacity utilization is less than 20% in terms of weight and volume, enabling other items to be combined with these items during the same flight.





Cost per flight or trip to deliver rabies vaccine & anti-venom serum are higher than all other categories for all modes of

transport

Status Quo Transport Costs

Destinations	Trips/Year	Avg Cost/ Trip	Ann. Cost	Vol (L)/ trip	Wt (kg)/ trip
District Hospital	12	111	1,336	0.24	0.08
Big Island	52	104	5,403	0.24	0.08
Small Islands	18	150	2,703	0.24	0.08
All Facilities	82	115	9,442		
Total Life-Saving	432	48	20,595		

UAV Transport Costs for Equivalent Volumes – Rabies vaccine & Anti-venom

Destinations	Flts/Year	Avg Cost/ Flt	Ann. Cost	Vol (L)/ flt	Wt (kg)/flt
District Hospital	12	221	2,654	0.24	0.08
Big Island	52	212	11,016	0.24	0.08
Small Islands	18	220	3,957	0.24	0.08
All Facilities	82	215	17,627*		
Total Life-Saving	432	187	80,907		

* Capital cost shared with life saving commodities. Cost per flight analyzed separately due to different transport cost structure.

Status quo uses public transport, considered an "all inclusive" cost. UAV costs are inclusive of capital investment and depreciation to enable comparison of equivalents.

Products are not stored at the DH; facilities must source items from Mwanza or the supplier as needed.

- Similar to other life-saving items, low quantities and infrequent demand for rabies and anti-venom contribute to high per trip costs. However, longer trips to Mwanza are more efficient than others.
- Combined, all life-saving items could be delivered using one UAV and hence, total costs are low vs. other categories.
- Due to low capacity utilization, these items may provide savings and efficiencies if other items are included with them during transport.



While nearly three times the total cost, lab samples may provide examples of cost effective delivery by UAV for some facilities

Status Quo Transport Costs

Destinations	Trips/Year	Avg C	ost/ Trip	Ann. Cost	Vo	l (L)/ trip	Wt (kg)/ trip
District Hospital	144		107	15,402		4	0.8
Big Island-near	1,152		1	1,503		0.6	0.2
Big Island-far	2,592		24	63,110		0.6	0.2
Small Islands	468		74	34,660		1.2	0.3
All Facilities	4,356		26	114,674			

UAV Transport Costs for Equivalent Volumes

Destinations	Flts/Year	Avg (Cost/ Flt	Ann. Cost	Vol (L)/ flt	Wt (kg)/flt
District Hospital	144		116	16,771	4	0.8
Big Island-near	1,152		71	81,528	0.6	0.2
Big Island-far	2,592		76	197,288	0.6	0.2
Small Islands	468		81	37,744	1.2	0.3
All Facilities	4,356		77	333,331		

Status quo uses public transport, considered an "all inclusive" cost.

UAV costs are inclusive of capital investment and depreciation to enable comparison of equivalents.

Health facilities deliver/ collect samples from the District. The District delivers/ collects from Mwanza.

- Destinations with regular flights (1-2/week) and longer distances, such as deliveries between the DH and Mwanza, and from the DH to the small islands, are have costs most similar to the current transport system.
- High numbers of flights requires more UAVs.
- If limiting routes for UAV delivery, the upfront capital cost of the UAV would have to be absorbed by those routes, effectively increasing per route cost.





Delivery of blood and samples by UAV requires more flights than currently for some facilities due to cargo capacity constraints; total costs are relatively low

Status Quo Transport Costs

Destinations	Trips/Year	Avg Cost/ Trip	Ann. Cost	Vol (L)/ trip	Wt (kg)/ trip
District Hospital	48	107	5,134	6	1.2
Big Island	192	26	4,925	4.2	2.1
Small Islands	96	78	7,496	9.6	4.8
All Facilities	336	52	17,555		

UAV Transport Costs for Equivalent Volumes

Destinations	Flts/Year	Avg Cost/ Flt	Ann. Cost	Vol (L)/ flt	Wt (kg)/flt
District Hospital	48	221	10,618	6	1.2
Big Island	192	179	34,382	4.2	2.1
Small Islands	192	185	35,595	9.6	2.4
All Facilities	432	187	80,595		

Status quo uses public transport, considered an "all inclusive" cost.

UAV costs are inclusive of capital investment and depreciation to enable comparison of equivalents.

Health facilities deliver/ collect blood and samples from the District. The District delivers/ collects from Mwanza.

- Infrequent needs and small quantities result in more fixed costs are born by each flight and provides little opportunity for saving.
- All deliveries could be completed using one UAV, making total costs relatively low vs. other categories.
- These dense items face weight limitations. The small islands require more than one flight to deliver equivalent quantities. The additional flights required drives up costs.





Layering use cases would leverage existing uncommitted time, reducing costs per flight; excess cargo capacity remains Example 1: Lab samples as base case

Destinations		Flts/ Year	Avg Cost/ Flt	Year 1 Cost	Capacity utilization	Time utilizati	UAVs on Required		
Base case: Lab Samples									
District Hospital		144	170	24,500	33%	12%			
Small Islands		468	134	62,866	10%	39%			
Total		612	143	87,366		51%	1		
Layering use cases using uncommitted time:			Highe	Higher than costs noted earlier as more fixed costs must be absorbed by these flights					
Big Island-far	Excludes	180	7	1,304	20%	15%			
Small Islands	Near facilities	90	12	1,060	20%	8%			
Total Incremental	Tacinties	270	9	2,364		23%			
Cumulative		882	102	89,730		74%	1		
Rabies Layered			ise cases incur	only incrementa	al operational cost	s, lowering	total cost per flight		
District Hospital		12	48	571	2%	1%			
Big Island		52	38	1,988	2%	4%			
Small Island		18	46	832	2%	2%			
Total Incremental		82	41	3,391		7%			
Cumulative		964	97	93,122		80%	1		

Low capacity utilization for all categories provides opportunity to carry additional goods at the same time with zero additional cost.



Flights during year 2 and onward would incur only operating costs until the useful life of the UAV has been reached, estimated at approx. 1,000-1,200 flights



Layering use cases Example 2: Blood and samples as base cases

Destinations		Flts/ Year	Avg Cost/ Flt	Year 1 Cost	Capacity utilization	Time utilization	UAVs Required
Base case: Blood & Sa	mples						
District Hospital		48	221	10,618	50%	4%	
Big Island		192	179	34,382	53%	16%	
Small Islands		192	185	35,595	60%	16%	
Total		432	187	80,595		36%	1
Layering use cases using uncommitted time:							
Life-Saving items							
Big Island-far	Excludes	180	7	1,304	20%	15%	
Small Islands	Near	90	12	1,060	20%	8%	
Total Incremental	facilities	270	9	2,364		23%	
Cumulative		702	118	82,959		59%	1
Rabies							
District Hospital		12	48	571	2%	1%	
Big Island		52	38	1,988	2%	4%	
Small Island		18	46	832	2%	2%	
Total Incremental		82	41	3,391		7%	
Cumulative		784	110	86,350		65%	1

Blood delivery could be completed for all facilities and have uncommitted flight time as well as excess capacity with each individual flight.





Constraint analysis: the affect of capacity and time limitations on number of flights and costs

What is the affect on number of trips if cargo capacity is increased from 4 to 10kg?

Vaccines

- Delivery requirements would decrease from 66,000 flights to 51,500 flights
- Costs would decrease from US\$1.7 to US\$1.35 million
- An estimated 40+ UAVs would be required

Blood and samples

- Deliveries would decrease from 432 to 336
- Cost would decrease by approx. \$1,100

No change for other categories as they would operate with excess capacity

Increasing volume would have no impact, as weight is the main cargo constraint

Can number of flights be increased to further reduce costs? What is the affect?

The estimated equipment life is approximately 1,000 flights

Estimated time to complete one flight, including prep, packing, unpacking, flying, is 1.5-2 hours = max 1,200 to 1,600 flights per year

Layering use cases only provides cost efficiencies up to these ceilings. Additional flights above these ceilings would require an additional estimated \$75k per UAV.

To increase the cost effectiveness of the UAV

- maximize the cargo capacity in all directions
- use milk runs (utilize excess capacity by including cargo for more than I facility and reduce total mileage traveled) instead of hub and spoke routes for routine deliveries, e.g., for lab samples or blood samples





Break even analysis: At what price would a UAV be cost effective in Ukerewe?

Factors		
Status Quo Transport Cost	152,824	Average cost/flight: \$95
UAV Transport Cost	494,833	Total flight cost: \$113,755
Flights required/year	5,220	Est. UAV cost \$19,012
Flights possible/year	1,200	

Considers weighted estimated costs and transport requirements for lab samples, life saving items (incl. rabies), and blood/ blood samples. Results are valid for distribution to/ within Ukerewe only.

Cost per km varies by geography and distribution of health facilities.





UAV costs analysis using lower UAV capital costs of \$20K vs 75K

Destination	Liters	Kgs	Current	Cost/ trip	@75K		@20K		No.
	Delivered	Delivered	Costs		UAV Costs	Cost/ flight	UAV Costs	Cost/ flight	Flights
Vaccines									
District Hospital	466,188	200,081	2,717	226	1,660,409	33	1,660,409	33	50,028
All Health Facilities	4,188	62,910	13,837	33	78,878	5	78,878	5	15,960
All Facilities			16,554	38	1,739,287	26	1,739,287	26	65,988
Life-Saving (incl. Rabies	5)								
District Hospital (a)	3	1	1,336	111	2,654	221	1,127	94	12
All Health Facilities	542	291	19,259	46	78,253	186	24,781	59	420
All Facilities			20,595	48	80,907	187	25,907	60	432
Lab Samples									
District Hospital	576	115	15,402	107	16,771	116	9,498	66	144
All Health Facilities	3,370	983	99,272	24	316,560	75	103,833	25	4,212
All Facilities			114,674	26	333,331	77	113,331	26	4,356
Blood									
District Hospital	288	58	5,134	107	10,618	221	4,507	94	48
All Health Facilities	1,987	994	12,422	43	69,977	182	21,088	55	384
All Facilities			17,555	52	80,595	187	25,595	59	432

Lowering initial capital costs for UAV has an effect of decreasing the UAV costs per flight and hence the total costs.

Commodity categories of life-saving, lab samples and blood responds significantly when UAV costs are lowered to \$20K. Generally lab samples are good use cases for UAVs

Vaccines are not affected by lowering of UAV capital costs.

UAV costs analysis for projected future demand as of 2025

Category	Destination	As of	2019	As of	2025	As	of 2019		As of 2025		
		Liters Delivered	Kgs Delivered	Liters Delivered	Kgs Delivered	UAV Costs	Cost/ flight	No. Flights	UAV Costs	Cost/ flight	No. Flights
Vaccines	District Hospital	466,188	200,081	533,652	229,035	1,660,409	33	50,028	1,900,569	33	57,264
	All Health Facilities	146,580	62,910	168,000	72,103	78,878	5	15,960	89,257	5	18,060
	All Facilities					1,739,287	26	65,988	1,989,826	26	75,324
Life-Savin g	District Hospital (a)	3	1	3	1	2,654	221	12	2654	221	12
(incl. Rabies)	All Health Facilities	542	291	636	341	78,253	186	420	75,253	186	420
	All Facilities (b)					80,907	187	432	80,907	187	432
Lab Samples	District Hospital	576	115	1,022	216	16,771	116	144	16711	116	144
	All Health Facilities	3,370	983	5,756	1,264	316,560	75	4,212	316,560	75	4,212
	All Facilities					333,331	77	4,356	333,331	77	4,356
Blood	District Hospital	288	58	490	101	10,618	221	48	7,284	152	48
	All Health Facilities	1,987	994	3,802	1,901	69,977	182	384	75,490	112	672
	All Facilities					80,595	187	432	82,775	115	720

Increased demand as of 2025 has no impact on the status quo transport costs as the system is flexible enough to accommodate the increased volumes and weights

Changes in volumes and weights for commodity categories exceeding the standard drone capacity of 12L and 4kg per trip has an impact on total UAV costs as it will require more trips and hence more flights

Lab samples are not affected as the increment is within the drone capacity

Other factors to consider

- Public transport is an inexpensive mode of transport and is used widely for transport of public health commodities. However, schedules can be limited and generally inflexible in the event of urgent needs, limiting the health center's ability to respond as needed.
- While the cost of salaries and per diem are included in transport costs where applicable, the opportunity cost of serving patients is not quantified. Health care workers are tasked with the delivery and collection of goods. For facilities near the collection points, the impact is likely negligible. However, for distant facilities and/or those with limited personnel, travel time requirements can be significant, effectively replacing time serving patients.





Near and Far Health Facilities



Near facilities are those within approx. 10km driving from the DH.

They are easy/ quick to reach and have low delivery costs.

Current delivery modes would remain more effective in terms of time and cost.





The most cost effective use cases for UAVs are for longer flights to further destinations, including the small islands and sites in Mwanza

Lab samples are most cost effective on these routes if used as the base use case for UAV delivery.







The most cost effective use cases for UAVs are for longer flights to further destinations, including the small islands and sites in Mwanza



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HEALTH IMPACT ANALYSIS



Overview

- Objective: To determine the health impact (in terms of deaths averted) if blood is sent by UAV compared to traditional transport, based on existing needs in Ukerewe
- Emergency product considered: Blood for transfusion
- Data sources: Four (4) healthcare facilities which provide transfusing services
 - Muriti, Bwisya and Kagunguli health center and Nansio district hospital.





Methodology

- 1. Determined the unmet need for blood transfusion (emergency orders required of blood), based on current data
 - number of cases requiring blood transfusion and the amount of blood required
 - amount of blood collected each week
 - amount of usable blood available
- 2. Compared the time it takes for traditional transport vs. drone for an order to arrive, in case the product is not available when it is needed.

Assumptions:

- a "late delivery" is anything more than 2 hours
- a "late delivery" would most likely lead to a fatal outcome (i.e. assumed case fatality rate of 90% following delayed blood transfusion)
- traditional transport reduces quality of product more than UAVs
- assumed case fatality rate of 5.2% for patients receiving blood transfusion



(Drammeh et al, 2018. Estimating Tanzania's National Met and Unmet Blood Demand From a Survey of a Representative Sample of Hospitals. Transfus. Med Review. 32 (1)



Decision tree model







Results

Unmet need for blood

- Number of cases requiring transfusion is 55/week, equivalent to 100 units of blood/week
- Blood collected is 116 units/week
- Proportion of blood screened 85% =100 units/week
- Proportion of screened blood fit for use 90% = 90 units/week
- Unmet need for blood 100-90 = 10 units/week, equivalent to 5 cases/week or 260 units/year
- 71% of blood consumed by preg. women & <5 years children
- Assuming 40% is for emergency =75 cases/year
- Units of blood received from other health facilities is 18/month=5 units/week









Sensitivity analyses-Tornado diagram



n-# of cases; *p_other* -probability of receiving from other facilities; *cfr-delayed_Rx* -case fatality rate with delayed transfusion; *ptd_drone* -probability of timely delivery by drone; *EV*- expected value/deaths averted





One-way sensitivity: number of cases

- Mortality in both strategies increases with increase in # cases with unmet need for BT
- At baseline n=75
 - 40 deaths, traditional transport
 - 9 deaths in the drone arm
 - Health impact: 31 deaths averted
- When n=150 cases:
 - 81 deaths, traditional transport
 - 18 deaths with drones
 - Health impact: 63 deaths averted



JSI



One-way-sensitivity: Sourcing from other facilities

- The unmet need is 10 units/week but they can obtain 5 units/week from other facilities i.e. probability of 0.5
- As the probability of obtaining blood from other facilities increase, the # of deaths decreases as no more blood has to be ordered from Mwanza
- The opposite is also true



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One-way-sensitivity: Timely delivery by ship

- At baseline we assumed that it is very unlikely to transport blood from Mwanza to the facility within 2 hrs i.e. the ship take 4-6 hours and is once/day
- But an increase in this probability (may be when a fast moving boat is used) then the number of deaths decreases.
- When it is unrealistically set at 95% there is no health impact as number of deaths is the same in both arms



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One-way-sensitivity: Case fatality rate

- On average 5% of people receiving blood transfusion in Tanzania dies (Drammeh, 2018)
- As CFR mortality also increases, at higher rate in the drone arm
- When CFR is unrealistically at 98% health impact is zero as almost everybody dies in both arms







One-way sensitivity: Case fatality rate due to delayed transfusion

- At baseline we assumed a delay of blood transfusion of > 2 hours almost always leads to a fatal outcome i.e. CFR of 98%
- Decrease in this probability, which is unlikely reduces deaths in traditional trans arms more than the drone arm, hence reducing health impact





Two-way sensitivity: Case fatality rates

- At baseline café fatality rate was 5% and CFR following delayed transfusion was 98%
- As long as baseline CFR is below 23%, drones reduce mortality rates





Two-way sensitivity: Timely delivery

- At baseline we assumes probability of timely delivery were:
 - Drones 95%
 - Traditional transport 5%
- Drones avert death as long as the probability of timely delivery by drone is higher than that by traditional transport







Conclusion

- Deployment of drones to deliver emergency blood for transfusion in healthcare facilities in Ukerewe island reduces number of deaths by almost 80% compared to traditional transport
- It does this by enhancing timely delivery of emergency blood supplies to the four public health facilities in the district from:
 - Nearby transfusing facilities
 - National Blood for Transfusion Services in Mwanza
- Drones also facilitates delivery of high quality blood as there is high chance of hemolysis when traditional transport is used.
- Health impact increases with increase in number of people with unmet need for blood for transfusion.











Demand estimation

Category	2019	2025	2019 Vol (L)	2025 Vol (L)	
Vaccines (combined)	9,944,412	11,383,529	155,395	177,883	Based on coverage targets and population growth rate
Oxytocin	23,000	33,000	318	456	incomplete or required adjusting,
Mag. Sulphate	532	1,480	7	20	Growth in health seeking trends will
Artesunate	51,840	60,968	3,732	4,390	likely outpace population growth
IV fluids	11,185	24,980	6,711	14,988	rate. Arithmetic or logarithmic
Rabies & anti-venom	82	96	20	23	growth applied for most items.
Lab Samples	5,842	10,349	32,131	56,922	No historical data. Assumes 10%
Blood	3,504	6,208	943	1,670	year over year growth.





Stock out estimation for life-saving items stocked at the District Hospital

Life-Saving Items	Out of Stock Probability	Out of Stock Days	Demand for Period	Unmet Demand per HF per Year
Oxytocin	1.225%	300	18,401	3.36
Magnesium Sulphate	0.82%	100	2,314	0.56
Artesunate	0.79%	170	59,608	8.01
IV fluids	4.38%	1,011	6,329	4.01



