

Scientists identify virus as Ebola

Clip from 'This World, Outbreak: The Truth About Ebola'

NARRATOR:

By March, the virus had travelled hundreds of miles and killed more than 50 people. The government sent a team of scientists to investigate and take blood samples.

DR LAMINE KOIVOGUI [ENGLISH TRANSLATION]:

The Ministry of Health told me, 'Dr Lamine, this needs your attention. A lot of people are dying in the forest.' Nobody knew the cause of their deaths.

NARRATOR:

The doctor tracked down a teenager called Khalil who was sick with the mystery disease. His colleague started filming on an iPad.

DR LAMINE KOIVOGUI [ENGLISH TRANSLATION]:

The child was there. There was blood everywhere. The clinician who was with me said, 'I have seen a lot of diseases, Dr Lamine, this is a first'. We helped him up. Then we leant him against the wall so we could take some of his blood. We took his blood and filled four tubes. I knew it was dangerous. I knew it was probably a haemorrhagic fever. But which one, I could not tell.

NARRATOR:

Khalil's blood was tested and the scientists found a match – Ebola.