My name is Rodrick Sambakunsi and I would like to thank you for joining us in reading this comic book. This comic book is part of a wider project called “One for All, All for One” which aims to stimulate dialogue and informed choice about vaccines and immunisation.

The project addresses vaccine hesitancy, which is increasing, worldwide.

Community protection through vaccination is a cornerstone of population health and an essential research target. Previous work in our research programme in Malawi has identified the concept of community protection as a priority for engagement with vaccines. Through this project, we wanted to explore the concept that a vaccine will “help your child and your neighbour’s child” and that we can all have a voice in research and the communication of science.

The One for All comic has been developed as an engaging, powerful, and accessible way of delivering a true-to-life and character-driven narrative about vaccination, and research into vaccine development. As graphic medicine, it intersects the space between comics and the discourse of healthcare. We hope the comic will support conversations between people, patients, communities, health professionals, researchers, and policy-makers. The comic might be most popular among students and young adults. Some of the young people we've worked with during the project have indicated that the comic should form part of their reading materials at school!

The comic was co-created by working closely with young people, students, community-based youth groups, young parents, health surveillance assistants, community and religious leaders, healthcare professionals and researchers in Malawi, an artistic team based in South Africa and the wider international project team. This happened through a series of in-person and online workshops, during 2021, which were, inevitably, disrupted by Covid-19. Working with so many people on this project has been a game-changer, different insights and perspectives have contributed greatly to the project. I believe the lessons from the co-production process of this comic will reveal invaluable insights to other projects seeking to engage and involve people with science and research.

The project came at the right time. It has already made huge positive contributions towards Covid-19 vaccine discourses in Malawi. I hope the comic will contribute to similar discourses elsewhere too.

- Rodrick Sambakunsi, MPRU Public Engagement Manager, Malawi Liverpool Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Programme.
A world re-connected by the onset of a pandemic led us all to strive for ways of working together, apart.

Hello, my name is Nabeel and I am the writer of this comic. My experience of working together on this international project bridged many barriers and challenges, as we – as a team – were committed to exploring egalitarian and equitable practices of communicating science and working together to improve research and engagement.

The seemingly insurmountable challenges of working on an inter-country project were made possible because we, collectively, found ways of working together, apart with a creative team in South Africa, workshops held in and with regular feedback from people in and from Malawi and partners in the UK. Finding people with similar passions, values and commitments to collaboration, co-production and co-learning in the context of public and science engagement was the single most guiding principle amidst the chaos, and this was a wonder and an honour to observe and be part of. We did not know we would be working on comic books or videos. We were simply committed to following the interests and guidance of all stakeholders involved, especially those present in workshops delivered online in Malawi. Those workshops were filled with people from all walks of life that shared a passion about and commitment to humanity, expression and health. We are grateful for their involvement and willingness to not only share with us, but guide us to bring their voices, interests and concerns to life.

It was an exhaustive task to involve so many voices, institutions and committees, but absolutely rewarding when those involved were equally excited by these comics and the manner in which all voices were included.

Amidst the chaos lay a world re-connected, apart yet together. This seems to be apt considering the creative process we collectively designed and shared. Together we did it. One for All, All for One!

- Nabeel Petersen, Writer

As the artist involved in this project at the beginning, we were uncertain of what the output would be. This was left open to be decided by the persons involved in the workshops to collectively consider the best and most practical ways to communicate vaccine information to others. This made the process really exciting, as it could have taken any direction, and I was very happy to learn that the output would be a comic book and animation/motion graphics. In my spare time, I have always made my own abstract and silly comics with only images and no words. This was my first time working on a full comic book with a script, real life setting and an impactful message that would reach many people.

It was a challenging yet insightful process, with many teams of people working from all over the world. Spending many hours in meetings, workshops, feedback sessions and revisions to refine and polish the message and output. I saw how we all learnt how to work better and more efficiently together, and watched our skills improve with each draft of the comic.

From the beginning, this project involved the coming together of people for a common goal and objective. Each person brought a different and equally important skill to the table to achieve this goal. We had to pay attention to each others’ strengths and weaknesses, and find ways and means to best support each other to achieve this goal. I am very grateful to have been a part of the process, and this project is a clear example of what can be achieved when people come together. Reinforcing the name and message of the project “One for All, All for One”.

- Mohamed Hassan, Artist and Colourist
CHAPTER ONE: What to believe?
ONE FOR ALL.

ALL FOR ONE.

CHAPTER ONE:

What to believe?

Vaccines are... 😞😞😞😞😞😞

 sighed

7
GOD MORNING, TAPULA AND MAHLO. YOU TWO LOOK LIKE YOU'RE IN A HURRY, EH?

CHILDREN, CAN YOU SEE WHAT IS INVISIBLE?

SORRY, AUNTY. I... WE ARE JUST CONFUSED.

EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT THESE VACCINE THINGIES.

MMM. EISH. WE HAVE ALL HAD VACCINATIONS BEFORE WHEN WE WERE CHILDREN, TATA.

WHEN PEOPLE ARE UNCERTAIN, SCARED OR JUST WANT ATTENTION, THEY CAN SAY ALL KINDS OF THINGS.

WE'LL TAKE TWO BANANAS, PLEASE.
DON'T BE UPSET BY HIM.

NOW GET TO SCHOOL. OFF YOU GO!

YOU TWO ARE LATE AND YOU'RE STILL TAKING YOUR OWN TIME.

THANK YOU, AUNT.

TEACHER, IS THIS TRUE? THAT UNCLE IS SAYING ALL KINDS OF THINGS ABOUT VACCINES.

EHH, MAYBE THAT UNCLE HAD A BAD EXPERIENCE WITH DOCTORS OR HIS HEALTH. HE MIGHT NOT BELIEVE IN VACCINES, BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN HE IS A BAD PERSON.

AND YOU KNOW THAT MAN LIKES TO HAVE A CROWD AROUND HIM AND TALK!
VACCINES HAVE BEEN GIVEN SAFELY TO MANY PEOPLE BEFORE. MR PHIRI, THEY ARE MADE UNDER VERY CAREFUL AND SAFE CONDITIONS.

IT CAN BE DANGEROUS WHEN YOU SPREAD THE WRONG INFORMATION.

Ah, Ms. Phiri. What do you think we should do to see if information is true or not?

I don't always believe WhatsApp and social media. I try to find the same information on health and medical websites.

What do you do, teacher?

Yeah, I try this too. This is why I am always checking my phone.

Ah, Ms. Phiri? When can I come to your class?

Ah, Maveso. Your sister is seeing the world as a researcher. Tabia will done for everything. Others to think broadly and search for facts.

Ah, Mr. Phiri. What is true? What isn't true? Everyone says something different!

Another one! All the time.

What is true, what isn't true? Everyone says something different!

The story may just be an opinion.

...But one important fact we are ignoring...

...You should get to class before your lessons are over!
CHAPTER TWO: Who to trust?
Later that day…

It’s confusing! Some people say vaccines are good and some people say vaccines are bad.

But… but… that is weird! To put a needle in my body. I don’t know what will happen to me!

Wash your hands. And do it properly!

Get the table ready, my children.

Mama!

Put your bags down.

Good afternoon, Mama!

Good afternoon, children.

Good afternoon, Mama!

{Gurgle}
Later that day…

Now! Tell me, what is this fighting and shouting about? Or do you want me to wake Papa up?

Mama, everyone is talking about vaccinations. Some people think they are not safe. What do you think?

Aaaah, I see. Sit down, let’s eat.

Hello! You! You two are loud today.
SO, CHILDREN! WE HAVE ALL BEEN VACCINATED WHEN WE WERE YOUNG. EVEN PAPA AND ME.

BEFORE I WORKED IN THE HOSPITAL, IT TOOK TIME FOR ME TO LEARN AND TRUST WHAT IT IS AND LOOK AT US. WE ARE FINE.

SSSH! YOU SHOULD BE LOOKING OUT FOR YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER, TATA! VACCINES ARE IMPORTANT FOR PEOPLE AND HAVE SAVED MILLIONS OF LIVES THROUGHOUT HISTORY WHEN PEOPLE HAVE SUFFERED FROM ILLNESSES LIKE POLIO, MEASLES AND EVEN MEASLES.

HE IS NOT SO FINE.

A VACCINE IS A TYPE OF MEDICINE THAT DOESN'T MAKE YOU sICK. BUT IT CAN STOP YOU FROM GETTING sICK.

IT KIND OF TEACHES YOUR BODY HOW TO FIGHT GERMS SO IT IS PREPARED IN CASE A sERIOUS ATTACKS.
AH, OKAY, I GET IT.

SO... IT'S LIKE ADDING MORE PLAYERS TO A FOOTBALL TEAM.

HEHE! YES, MAYBE YOU COULD SAY SO.

AH, I HAVE AN IDEA.

WHY DON'T YOU TWO COME WITH ME TO WORK ON SATURDAY? DR. CHIWANA IS GIVING A TALK ABOUT THIS AT THE HOSPITAL.

I'M IN! DR. CHIWANA IS COOL, AND SHE LETS US USE HER COMPUTER.

EH, NO! YOU'RE NOT GOING THERE TO USE THE DOCTOR'S COMPUTER, OKAY? SHE IS A BUSY WOMAN.

HAHA! YOU WANT TO BE JUST LIKE DR. CHIWANA. SHE IS YOUR HERO!

STOP TEASING YOUR SISTER, MAYBO! FINISH YOUR FOOD AND THEN YOU CAN BE MY HERO AND CLEAN UP THE KITCHEN.

MEH!
CHAPTER THREE: Being Herd, being heard
ONE DAY YOU WILL CALL ME PRESIDENT, MATE!

WHY ARE WE GOING THE LONG WAY AROUND, MAMA?

I WANT TO CHECK ON MRS. BANDA.

MRS. BANDA, HOW ARE YOU FEELING AFTER YOUR VACCINATION?

DON’T WORRY, IT’S NORMAL TO FEEL TIRED BUT IT WILL GO AWAY.

SISTER, I AM GOOD. JUST A LITTLE TIRED. THANK YOU FOR CHECKING ON ME.
HELLO, SISTER. CAN I WALK WITH YOU TO THE CLINIC? MY BABY NEEDS HER VACCINATIONS.

OF COURSE, YOU CAN VISIT THE DROP-IN CLINIC.

GOODBYE, EVERYONE.

MAMA REALLY CARES ABOUT PEOPLE.

IT FEELS LIKE THEY REALLY TRUST HER.

AT THE CLINIC...
WELCOME, EVERYONE. I AM DR CHIBWANA AND THIS IS DR IDEAL. WE BOTH WORK AS VACCINE RESEARCHERS AT THIS CLINIC.

WE ARE HERE TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT VACCINES. WE ALSO WANT TO HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS ABOUT IT.

GOOD MORNING, MEENE! YES, THEY ARE, AND THEY HAVE SO MANY QUESTIONS FOR DR CHIBWANA!

YOU’LL FIND THE DROP-IN CLINIC OVER THERE. IT SHOULDN’T TAKE LONG.

HEY! ARE YOU HERE FOR THE VACCINE TALK?

UHMMM... EXCUSE ME, DOCTORS. BUT HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT VACCINES WORK AND THAT THEY ARE SAFE?
YES! HOW CAN WE BE SURE WE CAN TRUST THEM?

THESE ARE GREAT QUESTIONS.

DEVELOPING AND TESTING A VACCINE INVOLVES RESEARCHERS FROM ACROSS THE WORLD AND TAKES LOTS OF CAREFUL STEPS.

SCIENTISTS TEST THE VACCINE FOR SAFETY IN THE LAB. WHEN IT’S APPROVED, THEY THEN SEE IF IT’S EFFECTIVE IN GROUPS OF PEOPLE.

ONLY THEN DO VACCINES START TO GET MASS PRODUCED.

AND WE CONTINUE TO MONITOR VACCINES AFTER THEY ARE ROLLED OUT TO THE POPULATION.
Umm, that's a lot of tests! But how do we know for sure that they are safe?

There is a lot of evidence that vaccines work. By listening to your concerns, we hope to reassure you that it's okay to trust vaccines.

When I was a young girl, I saw many people get sick in my village. I made a judgement about vaccinations based on evidence and trust.

Sorry, Dr. Chellama. What is this herd immunity I hear about?

Some people call it community immunity.

That happens when most people become immune or protected from a disease, mostly through vaccinations. It becomes harder for the infection to spread from person to person.
It's like the whole community becomes protected?

You could say so. Maseso, for example, not too long ago. Smallpox and polio were big problems in the world. So many people suffered and died.

Vaccines & Res

But they were controlled when enough people got the vaccine and entire communities became protected.

Aha! Like cattle and buffalo.

When they are threatened, the strong ones form a protective ring around their young, old, and sick. The predators can't get to the ones in the centre!

I hadn't thought of it this way. Thank you, Maseso! This will help me explain community immunity to others. If I may use your example?

Research

Wow! Okay, sure!
DR CHEWANA, I SAW A POSTER ABOUT HOW PEOPLE CAN GET INVOLVED IN RESEARCH AND MEDICINE, EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT A DOCTOR.

CAN I COME ALONG TO THE NEXT MEETING?

YES, PLEASE JOIN US NEXT WEEK.

WE NEED VOICES LIKE YOURS TO HELP US DO OUR RESEARCH BETTER. WE CAN LEARN SO MUCH BY WORKING TOGETHER.

HEY! MABUDA EASY LISTEN TO YOUR OPINIONS LIKE THEY LISTENED TO MY GREAT IDEAS.
CHAPTER FOUR:
Together we can!
SIX MONTHS LATER...

IT IS ALWAYS SO GREAT TO BE HERE.

NOT JUST YOURS BUT ALL OUR IDEAS! I JUST WISH THAT WE KNEW WHERE ALL OF THESE CONVERSATIONS ARE GOING.

BECAUSE MY IDEAS ARE SO COOL, HEHE!

I AM EXCITED. BY THE WAY TODAY’S WORKSHOP WENT. THEIR IDEAS CONTINUE TO IMPROVE OUR WORK AND HOW WE DO RESEARCH.

AND US. PERSONALLY, TOO. I’VE BECOME MORE OPEN TO DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES.

TRUE! WE'RE BEGINNING TO WORK IN DIFFERENT WAYS.
FIVE YEARS LATER...

Hooray!

Club House

Yeah, Maveso! This tournament is ours, thanks to you!

No! Thanks to all of us!

Look at this, guys!
IT'S ABOUT THAT NEW VACCINE. BUT CHECK IT!

COMMUNITY IMMUNITY

BREAKING NEWS: NEW VACCINE

COOL EXPLANATION. SO SIMPLE. I GET IT!

EVEN YOU CAN UNDERSTAND THAT, MAYESO!

ONE FOR ALL : ALL FOR ONE!

HEHEHE!
TEN YEARS LATER...
What are we even doing here?

I just come for the snacks at these launch events!

Hello everyone. I am Torma, the director of this new space. The African Centre for Vaccination Collaboration.

Is this just another place for more focus groups?

Where they ask your opinion and then just ignore it?
Hehe! I used to think that too!

As a child, I wanted to be President. I later realised that my ideas and experiences had power and I could play a different role.

This is a place we can bring scientists, artists, patients and others together to discuss health solutions that can help heal our communities.

Where we have an equal voice about vaccine research and communication.

Do you really think that researchers and government will take us seriously?

Well, I am a researcher and I do. I want to see change.

What do you mean by change?

Ultimately, it is about a shift in power in terms of who informs and is involved in research. This centre ensures we listen to each other and build trust.
WE WANT TO CREATE RESEARCH THAT'S MORE RELEVANT TO THE HEALTH NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND ACTUALLY REACHES THOSE WHO NEED IT MOST.

WE BELIEVE THAT ONLY TOGETHER CAN WE DO RESEARCH THAT BENEFITS US ALL.

BETTER TOGETHER, JUST LIKE COMMUNITY IMMUNITY.

I LIKE THE SOUND OF THIS. SIGN ME UP, PLEASE.

ONE FOR ALL, ALL FOR ONE!
Hi all – thanks for reading the comic. I’m Bella, the project Co-Lead and I’m Director of Vocal, which is part of Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust and is a place that creates opportunities for people to find out about, and have a voice in, health research. Back in 2019, the idea for One for All arose from conversations with researchers based in sub-Saharan Africa, science communicators across the globe, and people in Malawi and the UK making everyday decisions about vaccination.

Collectively – and as many others are too – we were concerned that we were communicating about vaccines and immunisation all wrong, at a time when global vaccine coverage was dropping, often putting the most vulnerable at risk, and misinformation was rife. So, we got together: as a bunch of scientists, science communicators, community engagement experts and people with lived experience of vaccines and vaccine hesitancy, from sub-Saharan Africa and the UK. Our aim was to co-create widely accessible communication formats, to encourage dialogue about immunisation. We were particularly interested in exploring how narratives around community immunity (sometimes called herd immunity or community protection) and collectivist approaches in science might resonate with different cultures across the globe, and in the voices of the global South leading the narrative.

Luckily, the National Institute of Health Research and Wellcome in the UK liked our idea and One for All was born. And then: COVID. The global pandemic which both reinforced the urgency of our work and turned our project upside down.

Our co-creation process moved mostly online across Malawi, South Africa and the UK, with some periods of (masked) in-person workshops. This injected a level of complexity and learning that we hadn’t anticipated, but we were determined to stay true to our process. The ambition was to listen and learn from people from all walks of life – including young parents, faith leaders, communities, policy-makers and beyond – to co-create the narrative of One for All. We also drew on evidence from science communication and social science research. At the outset, we weren’t sure of the best medium for communication: the discussions that took place in the workshops not only informed the content of the narrative, but the format too: this comic. We wanted to choose a format that was accessible, entertaining and informative, and with the potential to be adaptable to different languages and geographical locations. In this way, we hope to cross cultural boundaries and enable access to a wide audience. We also made films of the comics with voice overs, which really bring the characters, their context and experiences to life. The comic and the films can be translated (under Creative Commons licence) by getting in touch with the project team.

But this is not the end. Now starts a period of exploring and understanding how the comics are received and what difference (if any!) they might make to awareness, informed choice and dialogue around vaccines, including in the context of vaccine research and development. The comics will be shared in clinics, communities and with researchers in Malawi, South Africa, UK and beyond. We hope that they will encourage people, policy-makers and researchers to think further about how they might collaborate in equitable and positive ways.

My last word must go to everyone who was involved in this project. My thanks to the project team who dealt with global disruption with creativity, dedication and good humour, and especially to all our community and scientific partners who played a role in the development of this comic and the wider project. Together, we made it!

- Bella Starling
With thanks to…

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…and the One for All comic co-creation team:

This comic is part of the wider One for All, All for One project, which aims to promote dialogue about vaccines and community immunity, and to encourage everyone to have a say in health research, including as part of research into vaccines and immunisation.

As well as this print version, a digital version of this comic is available in English and Chichewa. Short animated films of the comic are also available, with English and Chichewa voice overs that really bring the characters to life.

You can find the digital comic and films on Vocal’s website at cutt.ly/OneforAll

The One for All team would love the comic and films to reach as many people as possible, and for the conversations to flow from these pages into daily lives.

What can YOU do?

Please spread the word about the comic and the films. We can send you some more copies of the comic if you get in touch.

Are you interested in translating the comic and films into another language? Please contact Rodrick Sambakunsi rsambakunsi@mlw.mw or vocal@mft.nhs.uk. We can make this happen together.

Use the comics and the films to talk to someone who might be unsure about vaccines, or who might want to have a say in research.

Follow us on social media, on Twitter @letsgetvocal

Seek out and contact your local health research networks and ask how you can get involved.
ONE FOR ALL, ALL FOR ONE FUNDEES:

W

NIHR National Institute for Health Research

ONE FOR ALL, ALL FOR ONE PARTNERS:

VOCAL Bringing people & research together

UCL INFECTION & IMMUNITY

MPRU NIHR Mucosal Pathogens Research Unit

Interfer

Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust

NHS

Moore Liverpool-Wellcome Clinical Research Programme

Malawi Government Ministry of Health

Blantyre District Health Office (DHO) Material Vetting Committee

WOWBACGER PRODUCTIONS ©
When it comes to questioning vaccines and community immunity, teenage siblings Tadala and Mayeso just don’t know what to believe!

Caught up in the flurry of voices surrounding them, the pair must interrogate information and search for answers to ultimately find their own conclusions. With the help of family, scientists and their community, Tadala and Mayeso challenge traditional research and communication methods. They soon discover the value of different perspectives that helps them engage with their community and science, and the long-term impact that inclusive collaborative research can have.

“Based on the idea that vaccines protect whole communities as well as individuals, we have worked with citizens, community leaders, health professionals, scientists and policymakers to create the One for All comic. This graphic medicine project is already getting people talking and thinking about how to make sure that vaccine research is relevant to everyone, and that vaccines continue to be valued as one of our most effective public health tools.”

- Professor Robert Heyderman, Scientist

“Apart from giving information on how vaccines are made, who is involved in the development of vaccines, misinformation and misconceptions about vaccines, the comic book also encourages dialogue among different groups within our communities, which is a powerful thing.”

- Pastor Munyaradzi Moffat, Pastor

“I am very proud to be part of this groundbreaking vaccine engagement project… The vaccine engagement resources developed by One for All will significantly promote dialogue and improve uptake of different vaccines currently being offered in Blantyre.”

- Chrissy Banda, Blantyre District Health Office