



Ministry of Health

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE PREPAREDNESS IN UGANDA

5nd October 2018 (12:00 HRS) – UPDATE No 30

a) SITUATION UPDATE FROM DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO FOR 4th October 2018, WITH DATA UP TO 3rd October 2018

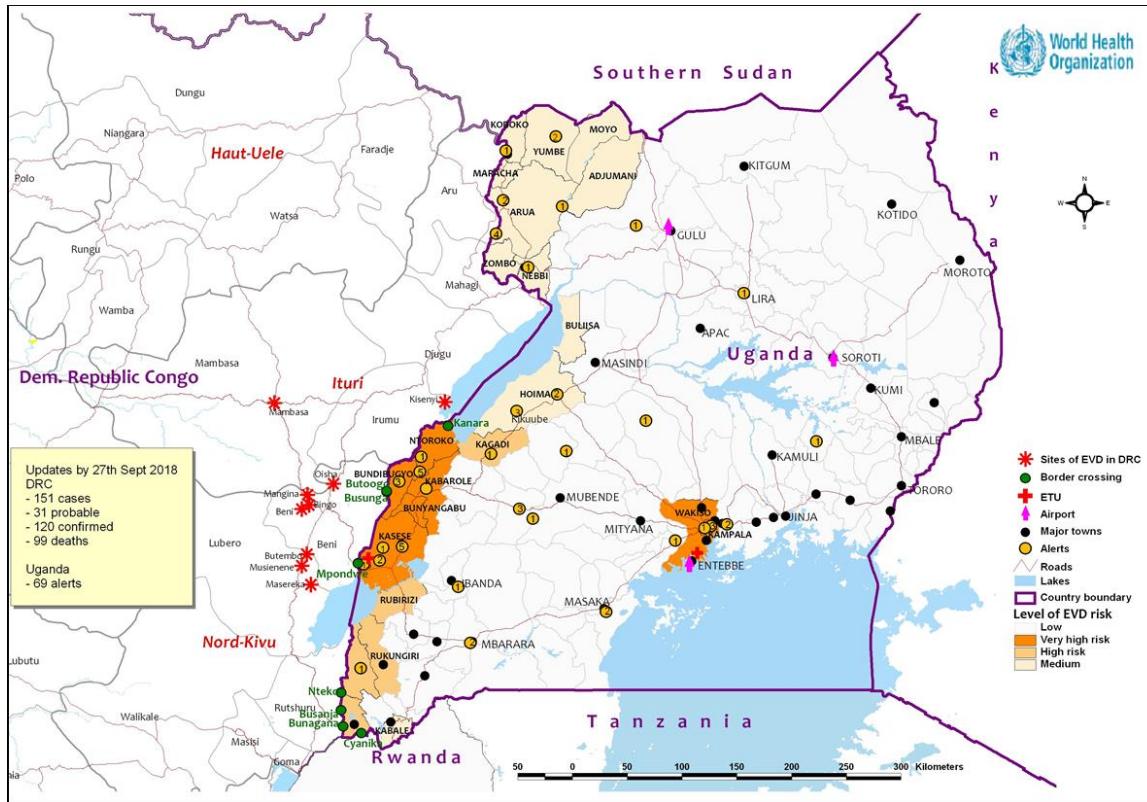
- Cumulative cases: 165
- Confirmed cases : 133
- Probable : 32
- Total deaths : 106
- Suspect Cases under investigation : 24
- Areas affected : Two provinces
 - North Kivu - Mabalako; Butembo; Ocha; Musienene; Beni and Bingo
 - Ituri- Mambasa, Mandina, Tchomia
 - “Ebola in Tchomia: 108 contacts , health and front line workers vaccinated”.
Security concerns limiting contact tracing.

b) EVD PREPAREDNESS IN UGANDA

- **Uganda does not yet have a confirmed nor suspected case of Ebola**
- **No alert case under investigation**
- **Active case search ongoing in all the districts**



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c) PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD AND NATIONAL (PROGRESS AND GAPS)

COORDINATION

Kasese District:

- The entire WHO team attended the District task force meeting. The district was updated on the current EVD risk grading for the region and the District Internal Security Officer resolved to bolster security at cross border points.

SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES

Bundibugyo District

- WHO conducted support supervision at Butoogho home care drug store.
- WHO followed up a woman that was reported as an alert about a week ago from Butoogho. She had epistaxis and was managed at Bundibugyo general hospital. She is much better now, no bleeding since discharge, and has resumed here daily activities.
- At Kasiri border entry there is no equipment and supplies (no basin and rug for footbath, jik, soap, bucket for hand washing, jerrycan, water for domestic use, raincoats and boots)
- **Busoru Health Centre II** had no supplies(water, soap, jik, gloves and thermometers). There is however improved IPC practices at the facility. WHO provided bar of soap for hand washing and advised staff to always have water for hand washing in the tank.
- Kisuba Health Centre III has no supplies(jik, gloves and heavy duty gloves for the cleaner) and equipment (thermometers). There is however improved IPC awareness and general cleanliness in the facility.
- **Kayenje Health Center II** lacks knowledge on how to reconstitute Jik for use and inadequate supplies (gloves) . WHO field team taught staff how to constitute the different jik concentrations for use. The VHT member in charge of the 3 facilities was contacted and reported no community alerts.
- **Update on missing contacts:** (**The** hunt for two men (Mutaghalirwa and Musakirwa Sam) who attended a burial in DRC still going on. No conclusive leads about their way about.

Kasese District

- Conducted surveillance training for a total of 47 health care workers in 4 health facilities Nkoko HC II, Bikunya HC II, Buhangamuyagha HC II, Kagando Hospital. They were trained on EVD definition, causes, transmission, symptoms and signs, and prevention.
- VHTs assigned to these HF were also coached and oriented in EVD. A total of 10 VHTs were oriented.
- Active case search was also done in all health facilities through the OPD registers but no case of EVD and VHF were found.
- All patients met at the Health facilities were also oriented on EVD
- Facility surveillance officers oriented on the need to intensify active search for cases in the facility and also coordinate the search in communities by using VHTs
- Contact number of the surveillance officer was shared with community members and health workers to help report and aid communication of any suspected EVD case
- VHTs were advice to support health staff but not to take up consultation of patients



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- Staff were oriented on the need to capture next of Kin details in the register to aid in contact tracing in case of a suspected case
- Health facilities to support VHTs with gloves

Kabarole District

- There was a Rwenzori region joint review meeting at Kalya Courts in Kabarole district where participants were updated on the EVD situation in DRC, risk to Uganda, preparedness level, the new case definition, and take home messages.
- About 70 religious leaders from the Rwenzori region were also sensitized on EVD at ATACO country club in Kabarole district.
- There was a dialogue with a total of 6 Health Care workers of Ruteete HC III who were briefed on the new EVD case definitions.
- Printed copies of the new case definitions were distributed as and new laminated ones are expected soon
- Health workers are vigilantly looking out for anyone who fits the case definition and were advised to report any suspicious cases to the District Rapid Response Team immediately for investigations.

Bunyangabu District

- Active case search ongoing throughout the district.
- The district received new case definitions but has not yet been able to distribute them because of lack of transport.

Ntoroko District

- WHO team, DHT and chairman (RDC) of the coordination committee conducted supportive supervision and data collection at landing sites of Kamuga, Katanga and Rwangara border crossing points.
- Screening by temperature monitoring on-going. 861 people recorded to have crossed into Uganda in 3 days from the three sites and 4 alerts were identified among them. Volunteers at the landing sites reminded of the community case definition of EVD and urged to continue been vigilant.
- Community orientation conducted at Rwentohe village in Butungama sub-county where the LC I and other community members were given information on community case definition of EVD, mode of transmission, prevention, case identification and reporting. They were 40 in total and were urged to be vigilant in their communities and report any case that meets the community case definition to the surveillance team through the contacts given and also to the nearest health facility.

Hoima and Kikube Districts

- No EVD alert or suspected case reported in both Hoima and Kikuube districts on Thursday 4th October 2018.
- The WHO surveillance team visited 03 (100%) all females aged 18, 16 years, and 8 months, contacts of an EVD case of Kasenyi village, Tchomia zone of Ituri province in DRC that entered Uganda on 25th September 2018 through Sebagoro POE. The contacts are normal with no symptoms, currently residing in their home (Kavule block 108) in Kyangwali refugee settlement. Daily monitoring will continue up to 10th October 2018.
- MSF and WHO teams are redesigning/improving the ETU at Kasonga in Kyangwali refugee settlement expected to be completed on Saturday 6th October 2018.

CASE MANAGEMENT AND IPC

Bundibugyo District

- No cases in the ETU at Bundibugyo
- Received 50 coverall for ETU
- Inadequate stock of gloves for the ETU (currently we have only 12 boxes)
- There is urgent need for gloves and coveralls to boost the buffer stock.

Kasese District

- The ETU at Bwera is ready and on standby to receive any suspect cases. The patient admitted on 29th Sept was transferred to the medical ward but she is still unwell and the CM team continues to monitor her.
- The WHO team attended the District task force meeting in which it was resolved that:
 - A team of DTF members with partners will meet health worker at the ETU and Mpondwe screening point to address all their needs including the current lack of clarity on health worker payments;
 - Lack of food for patients admitted to ETU should temporarily be addressed by using part of the district budget meant for providing refreshments during the DTF meetings. DTF members should therefore not expect refreshments during the meeting until further notice.
- A preliminary report of IPC assessment in HCFs by WHO and DHO teams is out and the DTF was given an over view of the findings which indicated the facilities scored highly on availability of safe water but poor on hand hygiene practices, formation of IPC committees, lack of isolation space and waste management.
- Finalized Kasese and Ntoroko Specific Facility IPC assessment, and distributed report
- Updating District IPC team members list for training.



- An assessment of IPC preparedness and compliance at Kagando (COU) Hospital which noted that the facility is yet to identify an isolation area for any EVD suspected case. The facility has stockout of aprons, face masks and hand gloves and requested same from WHO. There is one hand washing facility, dysfunctional and in need of repairs urgently. There was some visible IEC materials in the facility.
- Staff and students (23) at Kagando hospital were mentored on proper waste disposal habits with regards to segregation of wastes; on channel of notification/reporting in emergency situations; on proper hand washing solution constitution; on hand hygiene compliance and dangers of laxity Staff mentored; and on EVD alert case definition, identification, notification and surveillance.

Hoima and Kikuube Districts

- IPC universal standard precautions not well adhered to in health facilities of both Kikuube and Hoima districts
- Kikuube district still waiting for UNICEF to address WASH issue at Kyehoro HC III that was closed due to lack of toilet facility.

Kabarole District

- There was joint review meeting for participants from Rwenzori region in which they were mentored on proper hand washing.
- Hand washing equipment were positioned at the entrances in Ruteete HC III and hand washing is well enforced.
- WHO advised all health care workers to ensure strict use of standard personal protective equipment such as gloves and aprons at all times.
- WHO conducted IPC baseline assessments for Ruteete HC III.

Ntoroko District

- Supportive supervision at Kamuga, Katanga and Rwangara landing sites and volunteers urged to be more vigilant at case identification at their places of work. They were reminded to adherence to IPC.
- Soap supplied to Katanga and Rwangara landing sites.
- Work still going on at Rwebisengo ETU.

RISK COMMUNICATION/SOCIAL MOBILIZATION



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- The Ministry of Health with support from UNICEF hosted District Health Officers and District health Educators from 22 districts in a 3-day workshop in Entebbe in which they worked on translation of IEC materials into local languages and revision/update of district social mobilization budgets.

Kasese:

- DHTs continue to distribute IEC materials whenever they visit health facilities and to VHTs and community members
- The IEC materials are still lackings especially in the local languages and some health facilities are not displaying the material they have.
- Facility in-charges were provided with posters with key messages on EVD to be posted at vantage points at the health facility

Kabarole

- Distributed more than 100 IEC materials to the Rwenzori region religious leaders and health care workers in Ruteete HC III.
- There was a dialogue meeting with the Uganda Red Cross Society and DHT to institute a functional social mobilization structure in Kabarole district for Community Engagement. Seven people attended and they were the Branch Manager URSC, District Focal Person URCS, DHT member, 3 URCS volunteers and WHO consultant
- The DHT identified most at risk sub counties and villages in the district. They identified the best approaches to use to reach them such as:
 - Request the DHO, RDC, CAO and other higher authorities to write to the various entities/institutions e.t.c., they supervise to mobilize their staff for EVD dialogues and purchase of hand washing facilities
 - Political leaders/technical staff to address the issue of EVD whenever given get an opportunity to address a gathering e.g. graduations, funerals,
 - Community engagements
 - Use of film vans for busy trading centers

Hoima and Kikuube Districts

- UNICEF continue to support EVD Radio shot spots messages on liberty local FM stations for both Hoima and Kikuube districts.

LOGISTICS



Bundibugyo

- About 90% of the renovation works on the ETU has been completed. Walkway graveling works and construction of discharge showers to be completed tomorrow.
- More IEC materials are needed.

CROSS BORDER ACTIVITIES

Hoima and Kikuube Districts

- Point of Entry (POE) screening continue to take place at Sebagoro, Nsonga and Kaiso ports in Kikuube district. A total of 24 new arrivals from DRC were screened for EVD no alert or suspected case were detected.

Bundibugyo

- There were no alerts at the border points

Kasese:

- The District Internal Security Officer was briefed on some businessmen who refuse to comply with screening guidelines while crossing at Mpondwe. He and the Assistant RDC committed to contact and discipline the errant businessmen.
- There are no backup stock of dry cells for thermometers ahead of a busy screening day tomorrow!

-End-

For more information, please contact:

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