

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE PREPAREDNESS IN UGANDA

# 6th November 2018 (12:00 HRS) - UPDATE No 48

# a) SITUATION UPDATE FROM DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO FOR 5th November 2018, WITH DATA UP TO 4th November 2018

Cumulative cases: 300

Confirmed cases: 265

Probable : 35

Total deaths: 186

Suspect Cases under investigation : 41

Areas affected : Two provinces

o North Kivu - Mabalako; Butembo; Ocha; Musienene; Beni and Bingo

o Ituri- Mambasa, Mandina, Tchomia

Health and front line workers vaccinated

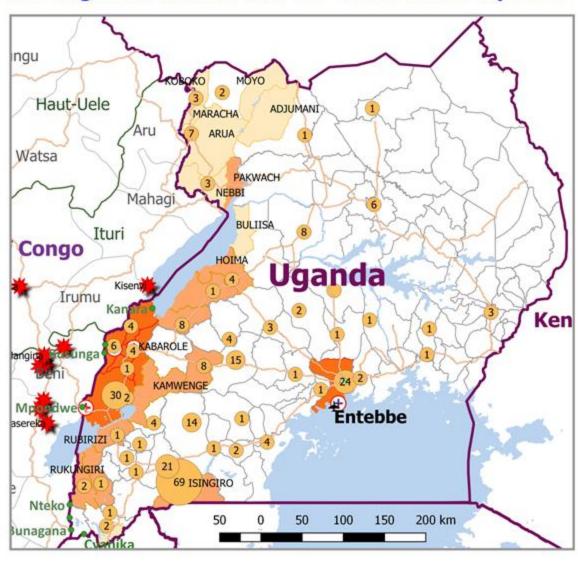
Security concerns limiting contact tracing.

# b) EVD SITUATIONAL UPDATE IN UGANDA

- There is NO confirmed EVD case in Uganda.
- Active case search continues in all communities, health facilities and on formal and informal border crossing in all districts especially in the high risk ones.
- Alert cases continue to be picked, isolated, treated and blood samples picked for testing by the Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI). The alerts are highlighted in the specific district reports below under the Surveillance section.



# EVD High risk districts and VHF Alerts since May 2018



# Legend





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

#### COORDINATION

#### **Kabarole District**

- A total of 34 vaccination team members constituting 3 different teams were given a refresher training starting Nov 5, 2018. The training will end the following day, 6th November 2018.
- Bundibugyo and Kasese district urged to share PoE data
- It was emphasized that all vaccination protocols will be kept without violation or deviation and observe confidentiality.
- All to follow protocols and to observe the right communication channels in case of anything during the compassionate use

#### **Kasese District**

 A meeting was held and discussed on how different teams (IPC and Surveillance) could share field vehicles and still deliver.

#### **SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES**

### **Ntoroko District**

- WHO and DHT conducted supportive supervision at Haibale North and Haibale South where screening was ongoing and the volunteers were again given reminders on people presenting with very high temperatures which calls for further management. They were also urged to be continuously vigilant and report alert cases to the health facility and the district surveillance team for prompt and proper management should it occur.
- The border crossing point of Kabimbiri was established yesterday. Three volunteers were identified and are manning the point with support of the security forces on the ground. After handing over the equipment and materials to the community, a brief orientation on the mode of transmission, signs and symptoms, prevention and the community case definition was given to the community around.
  - All were urged to inform the communities they come from to enhance community engagement in case identification and prompt reporting to health facilities and district surveillance team for prompt and adequate response should it occur.



Being newly established, this point lacked a tent, furniture, gum boots and rain coats.

#### **Kasese District**

- WHO and DHT visited four health facilities (Nyangorongo HCII, Buhuhira HCII, Kisojo, HCII and Kihyo HC II and re-oriented health 6 workers and 2 VHTs on EVD Preparedness and readiness as well as on IPC.
  - Sensitized on EVD signs, symptoms, causes and its prevention.
  - Patients seeking medical care in these facilities were also sensitized about the disease
  - Health workers were also urged to use their protective wears at any given time and to avoid managing any EVD suspects but instead to isolate and made a call for its evacuation. Below are the facilities reached with respective challenges.
  - All the health facilities lacked IPC policy; no hand washing facilities and no water supply

#### **Kabarole District**

- No new alert case reported and active case search is ongoing
- The results for the 3 alert cases reported in the district last Saturday were all negative for VHFs.
- The 30 y/F with CCHF is stable and much better. A sample for repeat testing has been collected and sent to UVRI.

# **Bunyangabu District**

- No alert case reported and active case search on-going
- Conducted orientation training of 50 VHTs from various communities in community surveillance at Buhesi HC II and Kabahango HC II. They were oriented on the importance and their role in community surveillance, given the contact for RRT and to commence house to house community sensitization.

# **Bundibugyo District**

- WHO and DHT team conducted supportive supervision on disease surveillance in Burondo HC II.
- Key findings: Staff are practicing basic preventive measures as trained. However, child health registers aren't filled consistently and schedules are not completed
- Action taken: The team engaged the EPI focal person on good practice in disease surveillance, EPI and data record, management and use for action.
- WHO further held a brief community engagement meeting at Kirumya Piki.
- Action taken:



- Community leaders and VHTs were sensitized on EVD surveillance.
- 23 households were sensitized on the community alert case definition for Ebola.
- WHO/DHT availed contacts of surveillance focal persons to aid prompt reporting.
- Posters and leaflets with key messages on EVD provided to community leaders

#### **CASE MANAGEMENT AND IPC**

# **Ntoroko District**

- No suspected case Isolated for today
- The team visited Haibale North and Haibale South. These volunteers were informed of the EVD mode of transmission, signs & symptoms and prevention. They were asked to adhere to the IPC principles and practice for prevention and control of EVD emphasizing that they are to protect themselves first. A short video clip was shown to them as a summary to remind them of what was explained to them by the WHO and district team.
- Kabimbiri border crossing was established and the volunteers in charge of the place were oriented
  on IPC on site and advised to adhere to the IPC principles and practice for prevention and control of
  EVD with emphasis that they are to protect themselves first. To buttress the need to protect
  themselves, a short video clip was shown to them as a summary to remind them of what was
  explained by the WHO and district team.

#### **Kasese District**

- IPC Mentorship was conducted at St Paul HC III and Kasese Municipal Council HC III where a total of 66 participants attended, 33 at each site.
- Health care workers at both health centres expressed readiness to receive Ebola vaccine.
- Meetings were held at the army Barracks in Rukooki and discussed issues of IPC orientation to security forces and made appointment to have a training on Wednesday morning at Kilembe Barracks.
- The team also visited Police (Rwenzori East Regional Police) and Rukooki Prison and made appointment for IPC orientation starting from Monday next week.

#### **Kabarole District**

- The 30 y/F with CCHF is stable and much better.
- All the 3 new suspected EVD cases were negative for all the VHFs routinely tested for. They
  continued with normal treatment.



# **Bunyangabu District**

Conducted IPC mentorship of 51 staff (28 VHTs and 23 HCWs) in Kiyomba HC III. They were
mentored on overview of EVD, transmission cycle and modes, EVD risk factors, role of health
workers in prevention of infection in facilities, IPC principles, and a practical session that included
hand washing waste segregation, mixing of JIK to the desired concentration and cleaning and
disinfection

# **Bundibugyo District**

- There are no cases in the ETU.
- WHO and the district visited Burondo HC II and noted good hand washing practices by both patients and HCWs. Noted good sharps management and appropriate waste segregation.
- Gaps/Actions: Noted inconsistent use of bin liners. WHO discussed with the in charge about the advantages of adhering consistently to IPC practices.

#### RISK COMMUNICATION/SOCIAL MOBILIZATION

# **Bunyangabu District**

 With support from UNICEF, 12 Red volunteers in Bunyangabu district visited: Kisomoro Rwano and Nsoro in Kabonero sub-county, Rwiimi TC, Nkimbiri in Kibiito TC, reaching 78 households where 342 persons (112 male and 230 female) were given EVD messages.

#### **CROSS BORDER ACTIVITIES**

- Screening continued at PoE in Kasese, Ntoroko.
- No alerts reported today from all the crossing points.
- WHO visited Busunga PoE and Kasili PoE to monitor screening activities.
- Action taken:
  - WHO supplied Busunga PoE with jik.
  - At Kasili hand washing was ongoing but temperatures were not being taken because the thermometer readings were in degree Fahrenheit. The thermometer reading was re-set to degrees Celsius and temperature taking begun



# **VACCINATION**

• MoH and WHO vaccination team travelled to the high-risk districts to prepare for the exercise that is scheduled to start on Wednesday. All health facility and frontline health workers will be targeted for vaccination using the "compassionate" approach. The vaccines is safe and is known to be effective against the Ebola virus that is affecting part of DRC near the Uganda border.

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# For more information, please contact:

Dr Issa Makumbi <u>issamakumbi@gmail.com</u>

Dr. Allan Muruta <u>allanmuruta@yahoo.com</u>