



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE PREPAREDNESS IN UGANDA

14<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2018 (12:00 HRS) – UPDATE No 10

### Situation Update from Democratic Republic of Congo as on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2018

- Cumulative cases: 57
- Confirmed cases : 30
- Probable : 27
- Total deaths : 41
- Cases under investigation : 58
- Areas affected : Two provinces
  - North Kivu - Mabalako; Butembo; Ocha; Musienene; Beni and Bingo
  - Ituri- Mambasa, Mandina

*Note : There is no suspected or confirmed case in Uganda*

### EVD Preparedness in Uganda

#### **i) Coordination**

- There is a National Task Force meeting today at the Emergency Operations Center to be chaired by the Hon Minister of Health Dr Jane Ruth Aceng. All partners are invited.

#### **ii) Laboratory investigations/Surveillance**



- WHO trained thirty (30) Red Cross volunteers working at five (5) screening points in Kasese district on Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) transmission, prevention and control. They were also taken through the screening process at border point. Local security staff working at Bwera hospital were also oriented.
- EVD Case definitions were distributed to more health facilities in Kasese district.



- In Bundibugyo district, the WHO Surveillance Officer supported the Uganda Red Cross Society to conduct a training of sixty (60) volunteers in community based surveillance. He introduced the volunteers to community case definition for EVD and fact sheets were distributed to all.
- WHO sent a tent to accommodate suspected cases and it was set up at Bundibugyo hospital yesterday.
- WHO provided Bundibugyo district with a Viral Haemorrhagic Fever (VHF) kit to beef up their stock.
- MoH and WHO supplied EVD materials to Ntoroko district to enhance preparedness. WHO Surveillance Officer oriented health facility and Uganda Wild Association (UWA) staff stationed in the mountainous areas of Bundibugyo on EVD surveillance, detection and protection.
- There were three (3) alert cases notified in Kasese yesterday, samples picked and shipped to UVRI. Two of the alert cases from DRC are alive. They were identified at the Mpondwe screening point with temperatures above 37.9 and 38.8 respectively the latter also had a headache. They were moved to Bwera hospital for sample collection and further examination. They were educated on EVD signs and symptoms. The third alert case, a pregnant woman died at Kagando hospital due to ante-partum haemorrhage (APH). Although a diagnosis of APH was made, and care provided for this, including caesarean section, the following actions were taken to rule out VHF:
  - Samples taken to UVRI
  - Health workers who attended to her in all the health facilities registered as contacts and advised on what to do to reduce contacts with other people until results are received.
  - Use of theatre where patient was operated stopped until it is properly disinfected.
  - The body has been retained in Kagando hospital pending making arrangements for safe burial.
- Medical Team International (MTI) continued screening refugee arrivals in Ntoroko town council; two (2) hand washing facilities were established in the town.
- Fourteen (14) refugees arrived yesterday from Beni in DRC in Ntoroko district. They currently have no signs and symptoms but are being closely monitored.
- The WHO Surveillance Officer visited three (3) health Centers in Bunyangabu district and provided information to health workers on EVD case definition, reporting channels, active case search and universal precautions including hand washing,



disinfection, sterilization, and waste disposal. The health workers were encouraged to be vigilant and report any alert or suspect to the District Health Officer.

- UNHCR supported MoH Rapid Response team to plan training for health workers in VHF in the refugee hosting district. The team of twelve (12) trainers will concurrently train health workers in Four (4) refugee hosting districts of Isingiro, Kikuube, Namuwenge and Kyegegwa. They will also train health workers at the border refugee entry points.

**iii) Risk Communication**

- Radio spots, Jingles and talk shows continued on most FM radio station in the region. Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials in English and Rukonjo were received and will be distributed starting today.
- Risk communication team carried out mobilization on EVD activities in Butogo, Bundibugyo district.
- Social mobilization activities were carried out with particular attention to people attending Monday and Saturday market days in Rwamabaale.

**iv) Cross-border Activities**

- Screening of people entering Uganda from DRC continued yesterday in all high risk districts at gazetted border entry points and some unofficial entry points.
- Three (3) more locations for screening points were identified and local leaders contacted.
- UNHCR and partners screened 137 new refugee arrivals from DRC in Ntoroko. None had Ebola alert symptoms but 11 were from Beni and these are currently being observed at the transit centres. Screening of new arrivals continued at all the border points.

**v) Case management**

- The results for the alert male case who was admitted to Bundibugyo hospital last Friday (10<sup>th</sup> August, 2018) are not yet out from UVRI.
- The second alert whose sample was sent to UVRI yesterday morning was admitted in Bundibugyo hospital on treatment but she escaped in the evening. Surveillance officers, contact tracers and local authorities are looking for her.
- The alert patient at Virika has improved and is able to eat, walk around and has not had any more symptom. Results from UVRI indicate that the specimen from this patient was negative for VHF.
- There was one new alert case, a 58 year old male living about 10 Kms from Fort Portal town. His blood sample was taken and sent to UVRI. A second blood sample to help



with management of the patient was tested in the JMEDDIC laboratory at Fort Portal Regional Referral Hospital. This sample tested negative for EVD by RT-PCR.

**vi) Logistics**

- UNICEF delivered four chlorine 4 drums, 15 cartons of soap, 40150 pieces of IEC materials and 25 washing facilities to Kasese district yesterday.
- The World Food Programme Officer worked with district staff to map logistical needs in Kabarole and Bundibugyo districts.
- UNHCR provide PPEs to all the refugee settlements in Uganda. Agency staff are working with humanitarian partners to identify remaining gaps.

**-End-**

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