



# EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE IN UGANDA

1 July 2019 as of 20:00 hrs

Situation Report

SitRep #20



## 1. Situation update



### Key Highlights

- 03 cumulative cases (00 probable 03 confirmed)
- All (03) confirmed cases have died (CFR =100%)
- Today is day 18 since the death of the last confirmed case who passed on the 13 June 2019 while on transfer to the DRC for further management
- There are 93 contacts under follow up
  - 92 were reviewed today and found okay
  - 30 contacts were discharged today after completing 21 days of follow-up
- There are 08 admissions in Bwera Hospital ETU
- Cumulatively 1,507 individuals have been vaccinated: 78 contacts, 747 contacts of contacts and 682 frontline health workers
- 70 individuals were vaccinated today: 00 contacts, 00 contacts of contacts and 70 front-line health workers

### EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SUMMARY

#### Background

On 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019, the Ministry of Health of Uganda declared the 6<sup>th</sup> outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in the country affecting Kasese district in South Western Uganda. The first case was a five-year-old child with a recent history of travel to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). This child was one of six people that travelled from the DRC while still being monitored as suspect cases following a burial of the grandfather who succumbed to EVD. The child was ill by the time he crossed into Uganda and the mother took him for medical care at Kagando hospital in Kasese district. He presented with symptoms of vomiting blood, bloody diarrhea, muscle pain, headache, fatigue and abdominal pain. The child tested positive for Ebola Zaire by PCR and he later died on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Two other members of the family, a grandmother and 3-year-old brother also tested positive for Ebola on 12 June 2019 and the

grandmother died later the same day. The 3-year-old brother also died on the 13 June 2019. Since then no new confirmed EVD case has been reported in Uganda.

Figure 1: Movement of the EVD cases from Congo into Uganda

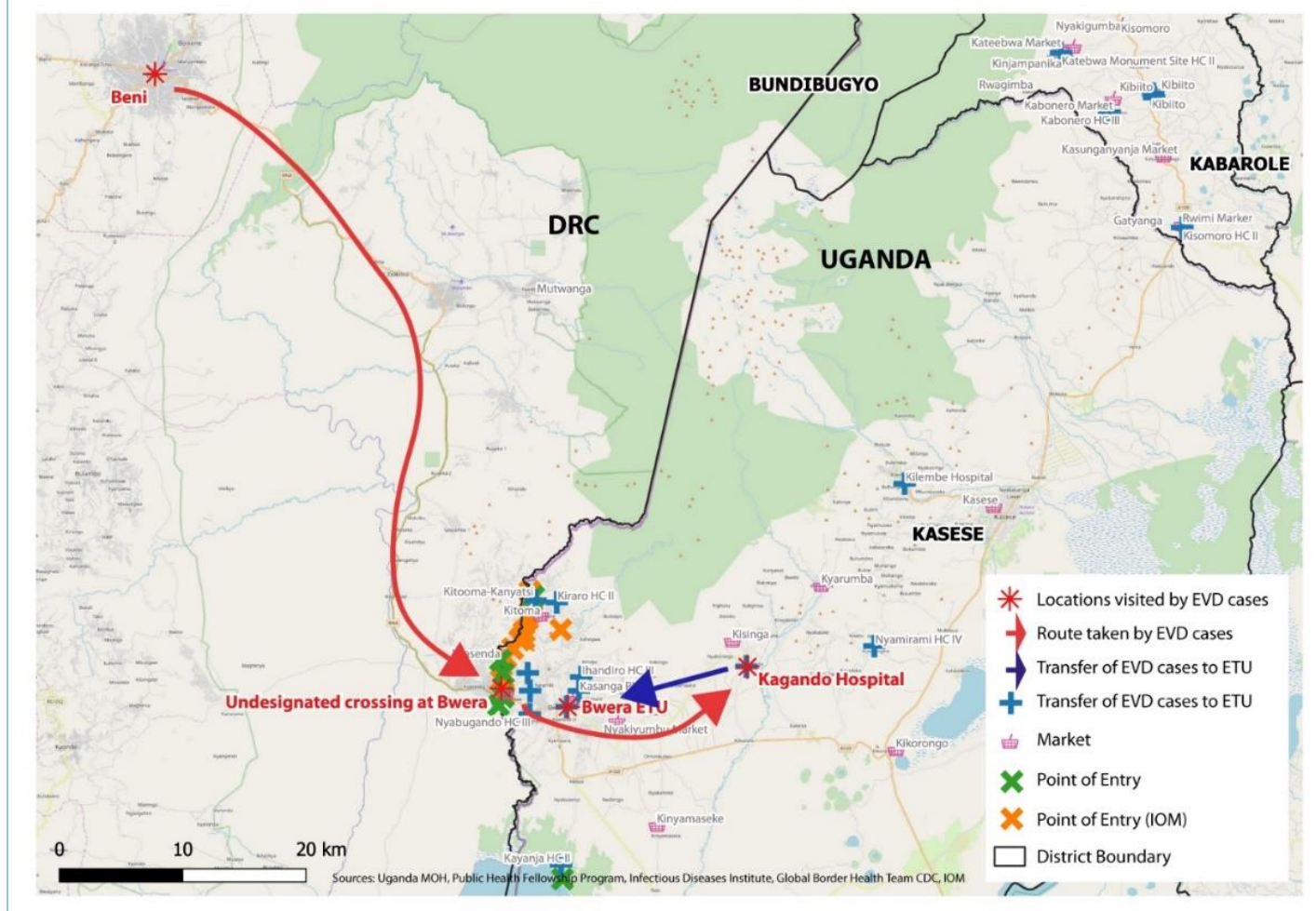


Table 1: Summary of Ebola virus Disease outbreak in Kasese, June 2019

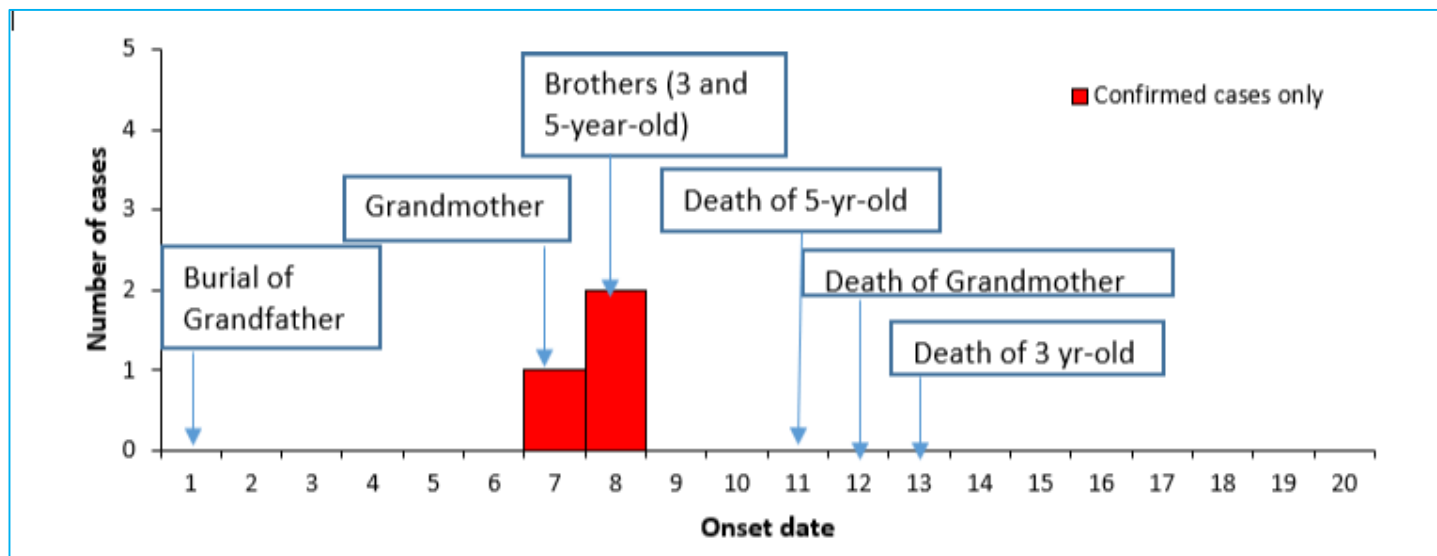
SUMMARY OF CASES (as of 01/July/2019)	Number
New suspect cases today	05
New deaths today	00
Cumulative cases (probable and confirmed)	03
Probable	00
Confirmed	03
Cumulative deaths (probable and confirmed)	03 <sup>1</sup>
Health facilities	03
Community	00
Deaths among confirmed cases	03
Number of cases on admission (probable and confirmed)	00

Probable	00
Confirmed	00
Suspect cases on admission under investigation	08
Runaways from isolation	00
Cumulative number of contacts listed as of today	114
Number of contacts that have completed 21 days	51
Number of contacts under follow up	63
Number of contacts followed up today	62
Cumulative number of individuals vaccinated	1,507
Number of contacts vaccinated	78
Health workers	04
Community	74
Number of contacts of contacts vaccinated	747
Health workers	00
Community	747
Number of front-line health workers vaccinated	682
Number of contacts vaccinated today	00
Health workers	00
Community	00
Number of contacts of contacts vaccinated today	00
Health workers	00
Community	00
Number of front-line health workers vaccinated today	70
Specimens collected and sent to the lab. Today	05
Cumulative specimens collected	44 <sup>2</sup>
Cumulative cases with lab confirmation	03
Cumulative samples tested negative	24
Specimens with pending results	05
Date of discharge/death of last confirmed case	13-6-19

<sup>1</sup> includes 1 death in the DRC

<sup>2</sup> including 12 repeat samples

Figure 2: Epidemic curve of Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in Kasese, June 2019



## 2. Public Health Actions to date

### Coordination

The District held its 20<sup>th</sup> DTF meeting chaired by a member of the district council. After extensive discussion, the DTF agreed on the following action points;

- Active participation and commitment during the district EVD partners accountability forum
- No payments of response allowances until MoH guidance circular is obtained.
- A select team led by the RDC to visit the Bwera ETU and motivate the health workers

### Surveillance

- The alert desk received 04 alerts at Mpondwe Border crossing points who are admitted at Bwera ETU after verification.
- The community-based disease surveillance team mentored 180 VHTs from 61 villages in Kyabaringusa and Busumbu sub-counties
- Event-based surveillance team supervised adherence to IPC practices at two heir-installing ceremonies in Busongora North. Over 700 people attended both ceremonies. There were enough hand-wash facilities and the VHTs on ground ensured that every mourner washed their hands.
- The contact tracing team followed 62 contacts out of 63. The contact not followed-up is asking for money.
- **30 contacts were discharged from follow-up today; the rest will be discharged tomorrow**
- Screened **16,902** travellers at the border crossing points including at bus terminals and unofficial PoEs
- Active case search team visited 3 health facilities and reviewed a total of 44,107 records. No case was identified

### Laboratory

- Five blood samples were collected in duplicate for the mobile laboratory and UVRI. All were first samples. All these samples were negative by the mobile laboratory
- All the 05 results pending from the central laboratory (UVRI) were negative
- Cumulative number of samples collected and referred for testing is forty-four including twelve repeats

- Three samples tested positive and twenty four tested negative
- Five results are pending from the UVRI (those sent in today)

### Case Management

- There are 05 new admissions to the ETU today bringing the total to 08. The new patients include a 26yr old male whose provisional result is negative for Ebola Zaire. The other new admissions are a family of four; a 37 year old woman and her three children aged 9, 4, and 2 years, from Kasindi, DRC who were identified at Mpondwe border screening point. They presented with high grade fever and were referred to the ETU. **Provisional results are negative for Ebola Zaire**

### Risk Communication

- 1 radio talk show conducted on Messiah radio
- Film van exposed at least 1,200 people to EVD messages in 5 villages of Katholhu, Bunyiswu 1 & 2, Musisho and Nyakirango in Nyakiyumbu sub-county, Bukunzo west.
- One community meeting conducted with support of sub-county leaders in Karambi and sensitized 84 people on EVD.
- Distributed 250 EVD posters in Bunyiswa and Kaghorwe and Muhindi

### Infection Prevention and Control

- Conducted a follow up visit to Kagando Hospital; the facility has enough PPEs in the store.
- Areas of improvement include providing a shade for the chlorine tank, finding an appropriate place for drying equipment in the maternity, and providing appropriate PPEs for the person screening at the entrance

### WASH

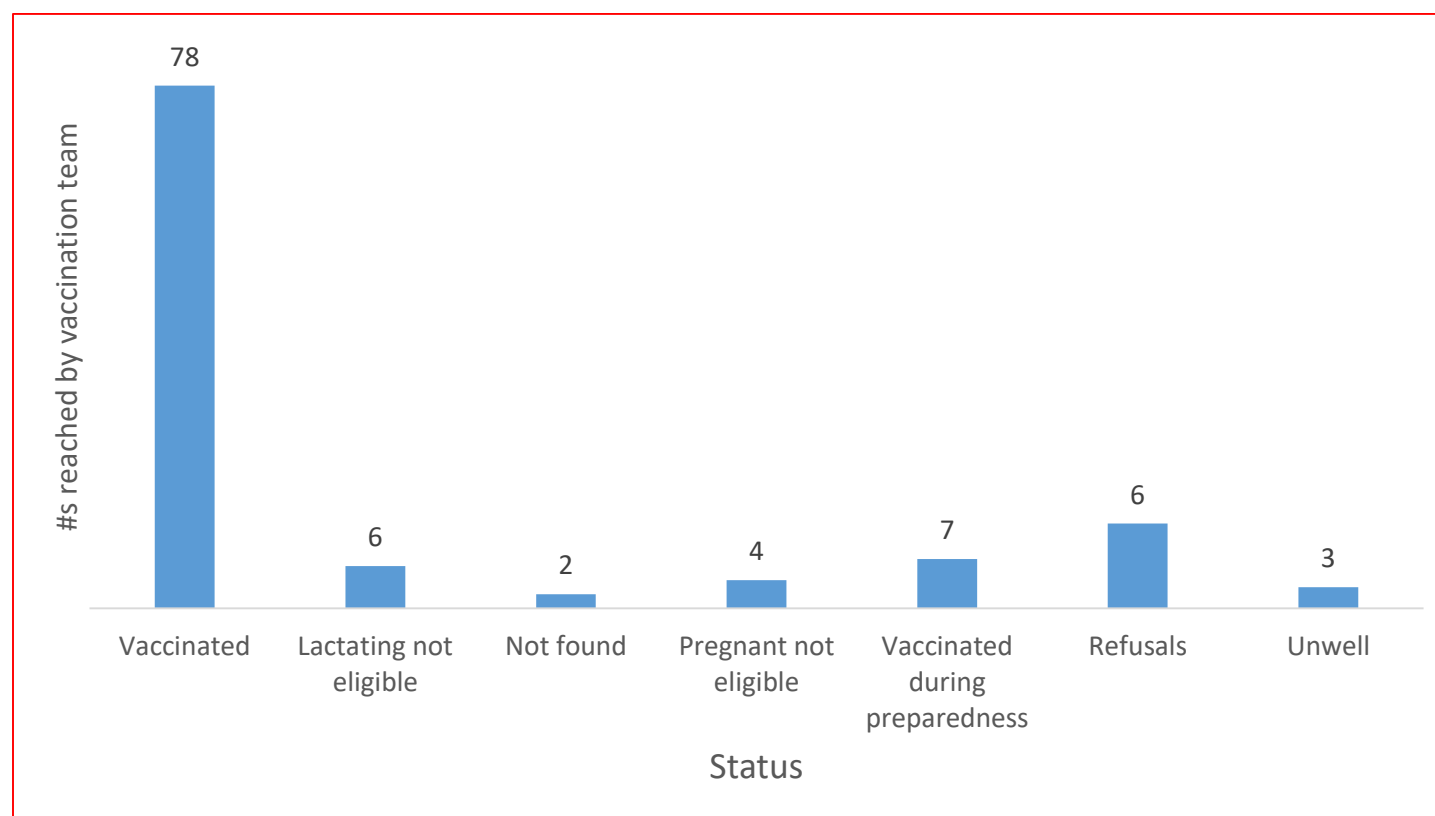
- Conducted the inspection of public places, supervised the utilization of WASH facilities (Use of hand washing facilities, safe solid and liquid waste management facilities, excreta disposal). This work was done in Kisinga and Mponwe Lhubirha Town Councils
- Carried out follow ups to places that had not provided the required facilities during the previous visits

### Vaccination

Today only 80 front-line health workers were vaccinated. Cumulatively 1275 individuals have been vaccinated including 78 contacts of whom 04 are health workers, 747 contacts of contacts and 450 frontline health workers. Those not vaccinated included 18 ineligible, 7 refusals, 7 vaccinated during preparedness and 3 not found. However, the risk communication and psychosocial team have made new strategies on how to reach out to the 7 remaining refusals.

- 70 health workers were vaccinated today
- Cumulatively 1,507 individuals have been vaccinated including 78 contacts with four (4) health workers, 747 contacts of contacts and 682 frontline health workers. Those not vaccinated included 18 ineligible, 6 refusals, 7 vaccinated during preparedness, 4 pregnant, 6 lactating mothers and 3 unwell.

**Figure 3: Vaccination status of contacts on surveillance list as of July 1, 2019, Kasese district.**



#### Psychosocial support

- Conducted a community sessions at Kitabo, Mirambi and Kyambogho I village. Encouraged members to continue being vigilant against EVD and urged them not to stigmatize suspects but to offer support and accept affected community members that have been discharged from isolation
- Engaged UPDF soldiers and addressed their concerns about Ebola

### 3. Partnership

We acknowledge the support from the following partners in response to Kasese Ebola outbreak.

Thematic Area	Partner
Coordination	WHO, UNICEF and Save the Children, Uganda Red Cross
Surveillance	AFENET, WHO, Uganda Red Cross,
Laboratory	WHO, CDC Uganda
Risk Communication	UNICEF, WHO, UPDF, BRAC-Uganda, USAID CHC-Obulamumu, Uganda Red Cross, Save the Children, St. John's Ambulance,
Case Management	WHO, MSF
Infection Prevention & Control/ WASH	WHO, UNICEF, St. John's Ambulance, Save the Children, Uganda Red Cross, IRC, IDI
Psychosocial Support	AFENET, WHO, UNICEF

Logistics	WHO, UNICEF, WFP, Uganda Red Cross, BRAC Uganda
Security	UPDF, Uganda Police
Points of Entry	WHO, Uganda Red Cross, UNICEF
Vaccine and therapeutics	WHO, MSF
Financial support	World Bank/EAPHLNP

## 5. Challenges

- Uncertainty on the Infection Prevention and Control strategy and facilitation for IPC responders
- Shortage of IEC materials translated into local languages (Lukhonzu and Runyakitara)
- Inability to effect payments for responders pending MOH guidance on rates

## 6. Conclusion

Kasese remains at high risk for importation of EVD given the outbreak in the DRC, and high population movements between the two countries. The recent tribal clashes in the Ituri Province in the DRC, and the resulting displacement refugee influx into Uganda has heightened the risk of EVD importation to the districts of Hoima, Kikuube, Kagadi, Ntoroko, and Bundibugyo.