



Ministry of Health

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE PREPAREDNESS IN UGANDA

11<sup>th</sup> March 2019 (12:00 HRS) – UPDATE No 98

### a) **SITUATION UPDATE FROM DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO AS OF 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2019.**

- Cumulative cases: 921
- Confirmed cases: 856
- Probable: 65
- Total deaths: 582

### 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.**

### c) **PREPAREDNESS IN THE FIELD (PROGRESS AND GAPS)**

## COORDINATION

### Bundibugyo District

#### Gaps and Challenges

- Printer/photocopier/scanner required to assist in documentation and sharing of information.
- Activities heavily reliant on WHO transport; DHO's vehicle requires tyres and servicing
- Poor attendance of DTF
- Electricity load shedding affecting coordination in the DHO's office.
- Inconsistent sub-committee meetings.

### Ntoroko District



## **Achievement**

- The DTF meeting was held

## **Gaps and Challenges**

- Lack of fuel for coordination, surveillance, risk communication and supervision.
- No typed reports from subcommittees.

## **Kabarole District**

### **Achievements**

- DTF meeting was held and come out with the following key issues:
  - WHO to support the district with transport.
  - A list of facilities without accessible water source to be generated and shared with RDC who will pass it over to National Water and Sewerage Corporation and also share it with partners such as WHO and UNICEF.
  - Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) to work with communities and identify risk communication champions in villages.
  - Risk Communication team to distribute EVD Messages to all churches ahead of the Easter celebrations.
  - Fort Portal Regional Referral Hospital (FPRRH) administration to address the issue of staff attitude towards handling of the Ebola alert and suspected cases.
  - UNICEF to give status update on radio talk time at VOT FM.

### **Gaps and Challenges**

- Lack of airtime for co-ordination.
- Fuel for vehicles on standby, surveillance, risk communication activities and ambulance.

## **SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES**

## Kasese District

### Achievements

*Number of people screened at selected PoEs in Kasese District on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2019.*

No	PoE site	No of persons screened
1	Mpondwe	-
2	Kayanzi	9
3	Mirami	470
4	Kisolholho	178
6	Kithoma	708
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,365</b>

### Gaps and Challenges

- Inadequate resources to conduct EVD active search and support supervision.
- Lack of facilitation for health workers at screening points and ETU.

## Bundibugyo District

### Achievements

- Conducted supportive supervision and active case search at Busaru HC IV. No unreported or missed case of EVD recorded.
- Six health care workers mentored on IPC and EVD information shared with them.
- District surveillance focal person trained on-the-job on the use of the ODK.

### Gaps and Challenges

- Lack of telephone airtime.
- Lack of field allowance for surveillance officers.

## Ntoroko District



## **Achievements**

- IOM is currently assessing PoEs in the district.
- A computer has been provided to facilitate typing and sharing of reports.
- A motorcycle is also now available for transport.

## **Gaps and Challenges**

- Lack of allowances for the 15 volunteers at the district manned PoEs. Volunteers from Fridge, Kigungu, Haibale south and Kayanja I PoEs have tentatively withdrawn from work demanding for their pay. National Task Force (NTF) to be contacted to assist raise funding (3 volunteers per PoE for 6 months at 10,000 per day).
- Lack of field allowances for surveillance officers.
- Remote areas inaccessible by ambulance to collect alert cases.
- Surveillance budget submitted to NTF on 14th January 2019 has not yet been honored. DTF to follow up.

## **Kabarole District**

### **Achievements**

- Active case search is ongoing.
- There was one alert case from Muhooti currently admitted at FPRRH sample taken and sent to Uganda Virus Research Institute for testing.
- House-to-house sensitization done by URCS volunteers.

### **Gaps and Challenges**

- Transport, field allowances and coordination airtime for the teams.

## **Bunyangabu District**

### **Achievements**



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- Active case search and support supervision going on.
- mTrac reminder messages sent to all health workers for prompt reporting of alert or suspected cases.
- No alerts or rumors reported.

**Hoima and Kikuube Districts**

- No alert cases reported in Hoima and Kikuube districts on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Village Health Teams and Health workers remain vigilant on community-based and health facility-based surveillance respectively.
- 105 new arrivals were screened at Sebagoro, Kaiso and Nsonga PoEs on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019. No alert cases detected.
- Waiting tents at Sebagoro and Kaiso PoEs await repair after they were destroyed by a storm.

*No of People Screened at PoEs in Hoima and Kikuube Districts on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019*

Port of entry	District	Number of new arrivals screened	
		9 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	10 <sup>th</sup> March 2019
Nsoga/Buhuka	Kikuube	15	26
Sebagoro	Kikuube	14	33
Kaiso	Hoima	05	02
<b>Total</b>		<b>44</b>	<b>61</b>

**CASE MANAGEMENT AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC)**

**Bundibugyo District**

**Achievements**

- No case admitted in the ETU

**Gaps and Challenges**

- PPEs such as gloves and other supplies are running low.



## **Ntoroko District**

- Structural and environmental improvements still needed at the ETU in Rwebisengo.
- Inadequate drugs and supplies such as triple packaging, linen at the ETU.
- Lack of stationery such as registers and case investigation forms.
- No food for patients admitted in the ETU.
- Insufficient security at the ETU that attracts petty thieves.

## **Kabarole District**

### **Achievement**

- There is one alert case admitted at FPFRH
- Case management team in place and conducts weekly drills on Fridays supported by JMEDICC

### **Gaps and Challenges**

- Stock out of PPEs
- No isolation center yet apart from the JMEDICC facility which can handle just a few cases.
- Team lacks facilitation in terms of fuel and allowances.

## **Bunyangabu District**

### **Achievements**

- Rwimi HCIII, Nightingale HCII, Kabonero HCIII and Editine Medical Center were followed-up and re-assessed on IPC preparedness.
- IPC materials and SoPs were shared with health staff at the facilities.
- 25 health workers and one VHT oriented on EVD, prompt reporting and IPC.
- Supported Women's Day national commemoration held at Rwimi Primary School through provision of hand washing facilities (water, vessels and alcohol hand gel) for over 10,000 people who attended the function.

### **Gaps and Challenges**



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- The IPC committee is not active
- No schedule for daily clinical cleaning of the facility
- Some staff not vaccinated against Hepatitis B.
- Hand washing not strictly enforced.
- Health workers not regularly educating mothers and patients on EVD.
- Inaccessible burn pit in Kabonero HCIII.

## RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### Kabarole District

#### Achievements

- Radio talk shows and distribution of IEC materials going on.
- House to house sensitization continue to be implemented by URCS volunteers.
- They oriented 598(283 boys and 315 girls) students at Kamengo Primary School on EVD infection prevention, and prompt reporting.

#### Gaps and Challenges

- Lack of IEC materials in Rutooro and Runyoro languages.
- Lack of facilitation for the Risk Communication Team

### Bunyangabu District

#### Achievements

- URCS volunteers visited 180 households in Kibiito, Kabonero, Rwimi, Katebwa, Kisomoro sub counties and Kyamukube, Buheesi, Rubona, Kibiito, Rwimi town councils. They reached 527 people (240 male, 287 female) with EVD messages. They distributed 95 posters and 39 Ebola Facts flyers in the community.

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**For more information, please contact:**



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