HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE PREPAREDNESS IN UGANDA

14th March 2019 (12:00 HRS) – UPDATE No 100

SITUATION UPDATE FROM DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO FOR 13th March 2019

- Cumulative cases: 927
- Confirmed cases: 862
- Probable: 65
- Total deaths: 584

a) **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.

b) **PREPAREDNESS IN THE FIELD (PROGRESS AND GAPS)**

COORDINATION

Kasese District

Achievements

- The District Task Force (DTF) met and agreed on the following action points:
  - The District Health Officer (DHO) to draft a letter for Chief Administrative Officer to schools about Ebola activities in schools.
  - DHO to update the EPR/Sustainability plan and submit it to National Task Force (NTF).
  - Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) and the DHO to expedite the process of timely payment of allowances for health workers at Points of Entry (PoEs) and Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs).
  - DHT to maintain the weekly DTF meeting instead of the biweekly that was suggested.
- Resident District Commissioner (RDC) to secure updated information for security personnel working at screening points.
- RDC & DHO to have a discussion with the landlord at Mirami PoE site on the land dispute.

### Gaps and Challenges

- Lack of Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) due to poor supply chain systems.
- Lack of facilitation to health workers at the screening points.
- Lack of tents at Kisolholho and Mirami PoEs.

### Ntoroko District

#### Achievements

- The DTF met and resolved on the following:
  - DHT, WHO, Baylor, Save the Children reviewed achievements from January to March 2019 and also presented plans for April to June 2019.
  - Pillar heads instructed to make field daily reports through WhatsApp, SMS or email.
  - Case management and IPC, Surveillance, Risk communication, Logistics pillars presented reports.

#### Gaps and Challenges

- Fuel for coordination and conducting sub-committee activities.
- No typed reports from subcommittees.

### SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES

#### Kasese District

#### Achievements

*Number of people screened at selected PoEs in Kasese District on 11th March 2019.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>PoE site</th>
<th>No of persons screened</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mpondwe</td>
<td>8964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Kayanzi</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mirami</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Kisolholho</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kithoma</td>
<td>269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Katwe</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>9511</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gaps and Challenges**

- Resources to conduct EVD active search and support supervision.
- Facilitation to health workers at screening points and ETU

**Bundibugyo District**

**Achievements**

- There was a community alert case in Butama community. He was a 47 year old male who was found with no fever, or any other sign of EVD. No history of travel to DRC. Not been visited by any one from DRC. He was discarded.
- Conducted supportive supervision and active search at Buama HC III. No unreported or missed case of EVD recorded at the facility. Eight health workers and eight community members oriented on IPC and on prompt reporting. IEC materials distributed at the facility.

**Gaps and challenges**

- Lack of allowance and airtime for the surveillance and risk communication field officers.
- Lack of computer for surveillance field activities and reporting.

**Kabarole District**

**Achievements**
There were two self-referred alert cases from Kiko Town Council and Kasusu HC III who reported to Fort Portal Regional Referral Hospital (FPRRH). Samples were collected and send to Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI) for testing.

The team oriented market vendors at Kitumba market in East Division on EVD facts and IPC measures.

**Gaps and Challenges**

- Transport facilitation and coordination airtime for the teams.

**Bunyangabu District**

**Achievements**

- 11 staff (nurses, mid wives and clinical officer) were mentored on EVD and IPC at Kisomoro HC III. Records were reviewed and no EVD alert or suspected cases detected. EVD preparedness was strengthened and ODK checklists administered.

**Gaps and Challenges**

- No facilitation for the district surveillance team for field work.

**Hoima and Kikuube Districts**

- 96 new arrivals were screened at Sebagoro, Kaiso and Nsonga PoEs. No EVD alert or suspected cases were detected on Wednesday 13th March 2019.

*No of People Screened at PoEs in Hoima and Kikuube Districts on 13th March 2019*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Port of entry</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Number of new arrivals screened</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nsoga/Buhuka</td>
<td>Kikuube</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sebagoro</td>
<td>Kikuube</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaiso</td>
<td>Hoima</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>96</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**CASE MANAGEMENT AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC)**

**Kasese District**

**Achievements**

- There was an ETU meeting at Bwera Hospital which requested the in-charge of the ETU to:
  - Ensure that duty interruptions at the facility are urgently addressed.
  - Request for more infrared thermometers and dry cells.
  - Ensure that the ETU compound is slashed and tidy.
  - Enforce hand-washing at the gate of the hospital for all persons.

**Bundibugyo District**

**Achievements**

- There is no alert or suspected case admitted in the ETU.
- IPC assessment was done at Busoru HCII and Amedeo Medical Clinic.

**Gaps and Challenges**

- Stock levels for gloves are running low.

**RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**Kasese District**

**Achievements**

- Risk communication subcommittee pillar met and noted that:
  - There is need to maintain regular reporting of risk communication activities.
  - UNICEF is scaling down radio talk shows to one every 2 weeks for the next 3 months.
  - UNICEF is distributing IPC materials to some health facilities and 212 schools.
  - Head of EVD risk communication at UNICEF is set to visit the district.
Kabarole District

Achievements

- Radio talk shows on going using airtime provided by the RDC.
- IEC materials distribution is on going.
- URCS volunteers visited 178 households and reached 423 people with EVD messages. They held 9 community meetings and interacted with 191 people on EVD.

Gaps and Challenges

- Lack of IEC materials in Rutooro and Runyoro languages.
- No facilitation for the team.

Bunyangabu District

Achievements

- DHT and URCS volunteers conducted a community meeting on EVD in Nyamawha cell in Kyamukube Town Council and in Kibiito sub-county. It was attended by 52 people (18 male 20 female 14 children).
- They also visited 167 households and shared EVD information with 614 people (214 male, 278 female and 122 children). They distributed 71 posters and 49 facts sheets.

For more information, please contact:

Dr Issa Makumbi issamakumbi@gmail.com
Dr. Allan Muruta allanmuruta@yahoo.com