HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE PREPAREDNESS IN UGANDA

28th February 2019 (12:00 HRS) – UPDATE No 93

a) SITUATION UPDATE FROM DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO FOR 27TH FEBRUARY 2019 WITH DATA UP TO 26TH FEBRUARY 2019

- Cumulative cases: 879
- Confirmed cases: 814
- Probable: 65
- Total deaths: 553

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)

VACCINATION

- Phase II of the EVD vaccination exercise was completed and it covered Rukungiri, Hoima, Kikuube, Buliisa and Kagadi districts.
- At present, Health Care Workers /Frontline Workers in 13 districts have been covered with EVD vaccination.
- Safety follow up visits are ongoing.
- 1170 doses of the Ebola vaccine are kept at the National Medical Stores on standby for rapid use should a case of EVD be detected in the country.

*Figure below shows the number of Health Care Workers /Frontline Workers vaccinated at high risk Health Facilities (HF) in the 13 districts; 165 HFs and 15 PoEs*
SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES

Bundibugyo District

- There was an alert of a 20 year old female admitted at Bundibugyo hospital with headache, vaginal bleeding, diarrhea and abdominal pain. She is a resident of Nobhili district, North Kivu province near Beni in DRC. She was diagnosed as ectopic pregnancy and operated. A sample was picked and sent to UVRI for investigation.
Kasese District:

- Supportive supervision and active search conducted by the STOP team and HSDSFP at Kalibo HC III. No unreported or missed case of EVD. Three health workers mentored on IPC and information shared on EVD.
- Surveillance and EPI posters were distributed to the facilities to enhance information sharing and reminding the workers in the facilities.

Number of People Screened at PoEs in Hoima and Kikuube Districts on 27th February 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>POE site</th>
<th>Number of persons screened</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mpondwe</td>
<td>7732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lake Katwe</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Kayanzi</td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mirami</td>
<td>393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kisolholho</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Kithoma</td>
<td>708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>9093</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bunyangabu District

- Ongoing active search and EVD support supervision.

Hoima and Kikuube Districts

- Health facility and community-based EVD surveillance continues in both districts. No alert or suspected cases detected in both districts on 27th February 2019.
- A total 152 new arrivals form DRC were screened at Sebagoro, Kaiso and Nsonga PoEs on 27th February 2019. No suspected case were detected among them.
- The WHO team trained 10 health workers on safe and dignified burial in Kyangwali Refugee Settlement in Kikuube district. The training was funded by MTI which will still support the trained team carry on with EVD activities in the refugee settlement.
Number of People Screened at PoEs in Hoima and Kikuube Districts on 27th February 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PoE</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Number of new arrivals screened</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nsoga/Buhuka</td>
<td>Kikuube</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sebagoro</td>
<td>Kikuube</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaiso</td>
<td>Hoima</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>152</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CASE MANAGEMENT AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC)

**Bundibugyo District**

- DHT/WHO team conducted IPC assessment Busunga HCII. Major gaps identified are:
  - No water source,
  - No cleaning schedule
  - Burning pit not fenced
  - IPC Committee not active
- Health workers were tipped on how to improve in those areas.
- IPC assessment at Arena Care clinic indicated that there are no waste bins, no burning pit, inactive IPC committee and staff are not trained on IPC. Advice and guidelines were given to the health workers on those aspects.

**Kasese District**

- There was an alert case of a middle aged male from Bwera who presented with fever, abdominal pain and bloody diarrhea. A sample was picked and sent to UVRI for testing.
- 60 students and two instructors of Kagando School of Medical Laboratory were oriented on EVD prevention, hand washing and chlorine mixing. School administration tasked to ensure that these supplies are constantly available at the school.

**Bunyagabu District**
45 health workers are Kakinga HCIII, Yerya HCII and Rwimi Prison HCIII were mentored on IPC. Assessment and support supervision were conducted at facilities as well.

**Gaps and Challenges**

- Poor waste segregation and disposal.
- Staff not well trained on case management.
- No isolation rooms at the facilities
- Inactive IPC committees.

**RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**Kasese District**

- Uganda Red Cross volunteers visited 67 households in Nyabutundu cell, Bwera and reached 238 people (80 males, 113 females and 45 children) with EVD messages. They also distributed IEC materials in the areas.
- In Nyabutundu cell, Isango the volunteers reached 165 people (46 males, 52 females and 67 children) with EVD messages.

**Bunyangabu District**

- Engaged 54 community members on EVD at Yerya HCII. Over 70% were knowledgeable about EVD. Five businessmen were also engaged and they displayed the same knowledge level.
- Three community meeting were conducted by Uganda Red Cross Society (URCS) volunteers in Katebwa Sub County, Rwimi town council and Kisomoro Sub County attended by 104 people. IEC materials on EVD were also distributed.
- URCS volunteers visited 161 households in Bugogo Kisomoro and Busanda Kabonero sub counties and reached 482 people (217 male and 265 female) with EVD messages. 97 posters and 50 flyers were distributed in the community.

**-End-**

For more information, please contact:
Dr Issa Makumbi – issamakumbi@gmail.com

Dr. Allan Muruta – allanmuruta@yahoo.com