

Aufruf

Global Alert and Response (GAR)

Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreak – update

WHO continues to monitor the evolution of the Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreak in Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Guinea. The current epidemic trend of EVD outbreak in Sierra Leone and Liberia remains serious, with 67 new cases and 19 deaths reported from 15 – 17 July 2014. These include suspect, probable, and laboratory-confirmed cases. The EVD outbreak in Guinea continues to show a declining trend, with no new cases reported during this period. Critical analyses and review of the current outbreak response is being undertaken to inform the process of developing prioritized national operational plans. Effective implementation of the prioritized plans will be vital in reversing the current trend of EVD outbreak, especially in Liberia and Sierra Leone.

WHO has been working with national authorities and partners in the affected countries to analyse and review the current outbreak response. An assessment of the outbreak response conducted in Liberia identified several gaps and challenges. Some of the gaps identified include low coverage of contact tracing; persisting denial and resistance in the community; weak data management; inadequate infection prevention and control practices, especially in peripheral health facilities; and weak leadership and coordination at sub-national levels. Underpinning these challenges were limited financial resources and human technical capacity. Comprehensive mapping of the financial, logistics, and human resource needs will be articulated in the national operational plan under development. This exercise of developing prioritized operational plans is also being conducted in Guinea and Sierra Leone.

Following the call for regional collaboration during the Accra Ministerial meeting, the Government and the Ministry of Health of Gambia provided a team of 11 health-care workers to support outbreak response in Sierra Leone. While this team will contribute the critical human resource needs, the mission will be crucial for enhancing capacity for epidemic preparedness and response in The Gambia. This mission is being supported by UNDP, Gambia, and WHO Sierra Leone.

Efforts are currently ongoing to scale up and strengthen all aspects of the outbreak response in the three countries, including contact tracing, public information and community mobilization, case management and infection prevention and control, and coordination.



World Health Organization

There are many international organizations providing support to the affected countries and the WHO is helping to provide a coordinating role and supplying technical and clinical support.

The expert will work under the coordination of MoH/WHO emergency crisis committee and WHO GOARN international outbreak response Team Lead to provide technical support and inputs on clinical management.

- 1) Set up a system for emergency triage at healthcare facilities by training healthcare workers, hospital management and auxiliaries (WHO IMAI Quick Check + Emergency Triage and Treatment Training)
- 2) Provide on-site technical assistance in caring patients with VHF (critical care including sepsis management, life support, etc based on internationally recognized evidence-based guidance).
- 3) Support national and local health authorities to develop and communicate messages on clinical features with the medical and health communities and effective behaviours.
- 4) Coordinate with MSF and other clinical partners on the ground to document clinical features and case management of the patients with VHF.

If there are interested individuals, please forward a note and your CV to Nikki Shindo (shindon@who.int), with any questions and potential availability.

Thank you for considering this request.

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