

## Outbreak Brief #8: Ebola virus disease (EVD) in the Democratic Republic of Congo

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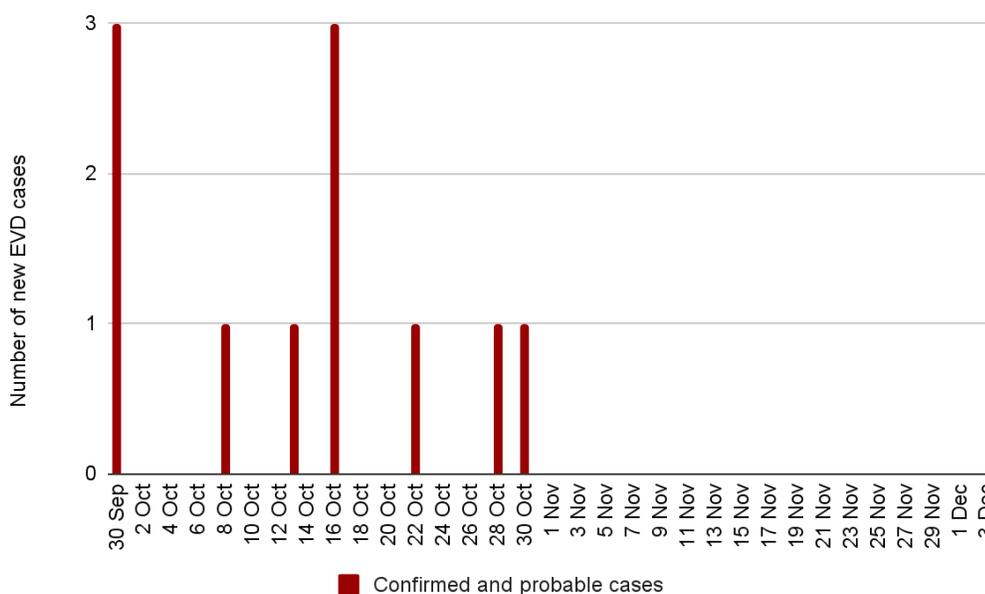
**11 cases, 9 deaths, and 2 recoveries**

*Data sources: DRC Ministry of Health*

**Outbreak Update:** Since the last brief (26 November 2021), no new confirmed cases or deaths of Ebola virus disease (EVD) have been reported from Beni health zone, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Currently eight suspected cases are being treated in isolation centers in Beni health zone.

Cumulatively, 11 cases (8 confirmed, 3 probable), nine deaths (6, 3) and two recoveries of EVD have been reported. Cases are distributed across three (3) health areas: Butsili (9 cases, 7 deaths, 2 recoveries), Bundji (1, 1, 0) and Kanzulinzuli (1, 1, 0). Four (50%) of the confirmed cases are children under 5 years. The cumulative case fatality ratio is 82%. The last confirmed case was reported on 30 October 2021. It has been 28 days since the last case was discharged from the Ebola treatment center.

**Figure 1: New confirmed Ebola virus disease cases reported by day in DR Congo between 30 September - 3 December 2021.**



## Event Geoscope and Risk Assessment Levels

Geoscope:  
**low**

Risk level:  
**high**

No updates have been made to the existing geographic scope (geoscope) and risk level for the EVD event reported in DRC. The Africa CDC will continue to monitor the situation and update this assessment as needed. The World Health Organization<sup>1</sup> has also issued a risk assessment for this event.

## New DR Congo Response Activities

- Community surveillance and active case search is ongoing.
- Since the beginning of the outbreak, 756 persons were vaccinated in Butsili, Ngongolio, Paida and Mabakanga health areas, including 181 frontline health workers.
- 24,004 persons from 14,243 households have received EVD sensitization.
- 8 (0.7%) of 1,243 samples collected tested positive for Ebola virus by Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR).
- 214 service providers from 40 health facilities were assessed and trained on infection prevention and control compliance.

## New Africa CDC Response Activities

- Africa CDC rapid responders continue to support surveillance, laboratory and infection prevention and control activities.

## Recommendations for the Member States

1. Member States should continue to enhance their cross-border surveillance efforts to:
  - a. Map population movements to identify all potential crossing points where there is risk of disease spread.
  - b. Set-up screening posts and conduct health screenings for travelers with signs of EVD (e.g. fever, rash, vomiting, diarrhoea, and hemorrhage).
  - c. Implement public health measures at border crossing points including temperature monitoring, and infection prevention and control measures
  - d. Share health information for EVD at borders.
2. Where feasible, neighbouring Member States should integrate EVD surveillance into the existing COVID-19 surveillance strategies at community and health facility levels.
3. Member States should perform contact tracing and follow up of all probable and confirmed EVD cases.
4. Member states should enhance infection prevention and control measures in health care settings, health care workers protection and practice safe and dignified burial.
5. All Member States should notify and routinely share data regarding confirmed EVD cases, deaths, recoveries, tests conducted and healthcare workers infected with WHO and Africa CDC to continually inform these and other updates. Notify Africa CDC by emailing: [AfricaCDCEBS@africa-union.org](mailto:AfricaCDCEBS@africa-union.org).

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.who.int/emergencies/disease-outbreak-news/item/ebola-virus-disease-democratic-republic-of-the-congo\\_1](https://www.who.int/emergencies/disease-outbreak-news/item/ebola-virus-disease-democratic-republic-of-the-congo_1)

6. Member States should continue to provide information to the general public about seeking immediate medical care for those who develop symptoms similar to EVD.
7. Member States should work urgently with partners to improve their preparedness for detecting and managing imported cases, including the mapping of health facilities and active surveillance with zero reporting.

### **Resources for more information**

- Africa CDC updates: <https://africacdc.org/>
- [Ebola virus infection - Prevention | BMJ Best Practice US](#)
- US CDC - [Ebola Virus Disease](#) and WHO - [Ebola virus disease](#) overview
- WHO - [Implementation and management of contact tracing for Ebola virus disease](#)
- WHO - [Surveillance strategy during Phase 3 of the Ebola response](#)
- WHO - EVD [Infection prevention and control](#)