

Outbreak Brief #11: Ebola virus disease (EVD)

Date of Issue: 4 May 2021

35 cases, 18 deaths, and 16 recoveries

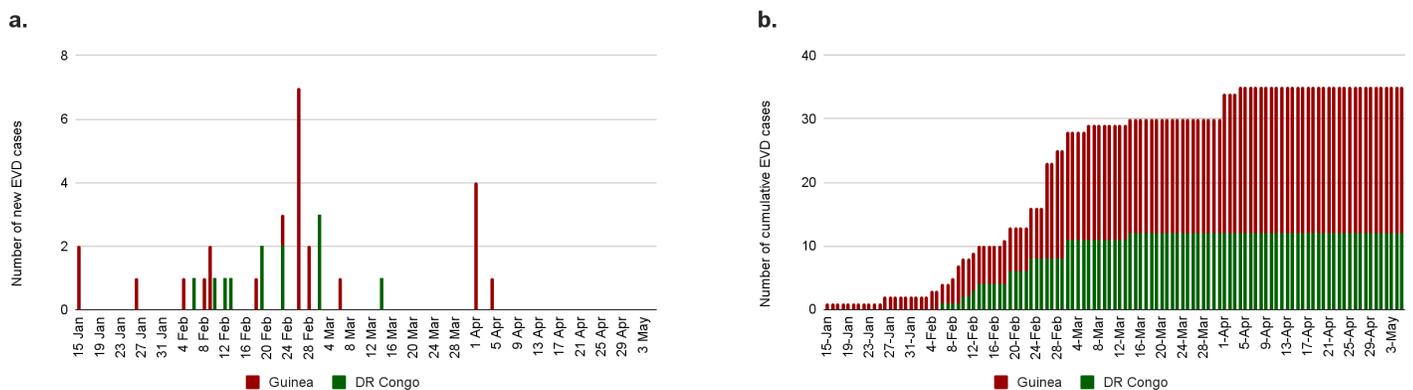
Data sources: African Union Member States

Outbreak Update: Since 27 April 2021, no new cases or deaths from Ebola virus disease (EVD) have been reported in Guinea and Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo). Cumulatively 35 cases of EVD, including 18 deaths (CFR: 51%), and 16 recoveries from the DR Congo (12 cases; 6 deaths; 6 recoveries) and Guinea (23¹; 12; 10). This includes two health workers from the DR Congo and five health workers from Guinea.

- **Updates from the DR Congo:** The last confirmed EVD case was reported on 14 March 2021 (64 days ago). There have been no new cases confirmed during the countdown period, and **the 12th EVD outbreak in DR Congo is now declared over by the Ministry of Health.**
- **Updates from Guinea:** The last confirmed EVD case and death was reported on 4 April 2021 (28 days ago). Eight days into the countdown to declare the end of Guinea’s EVD outbreak if no new cases are confirmed.

Member States bordering Guinea continue to remain vigilant. Sierra Leone continues to report on alerts and currently, two alerts are pending laboratory results. Since the onset of EVD in Guinea, Sierra Leone has investigated 43 EVD-related alerts.

Figure 1: New (a) and cumulative (b) cases reported by day in Democratic Republic of Congo and Guinea, 15 January - 04 May 2021.



¹ One case has been lost to follow-up - no additional information regarding outcome has been provided

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 events being reported for both DR Congo and Guinea. The World Health Organization² and European Centres for Disease Prevention and Control³ have also issued risk assessments for the Ebola virus disease events.

Member State Response Activities

- Guinea provides daily updates for EVD
 - To date, all contacts have been followed up
 - Total number vaccinated is 8,758

Africa CDC Response Activities

- Africa CDC continues its weekly press briefing on the EVD situation in Guinea and Democratic Republic of Congo to provide updated information.
- Africa CDC continues its rumour monitoring through media scanning to ensure prompt response to mis- and dis-information on EVD in Africa.
- Africa CDC has deployed rapid responders to Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Côte D'Ivoire to assist with response efforts

Recommendations for the Member States

1. Member States should continue to enhance their cross-border surveillance efforts to:
 - a. Map population movements and identify all potential crossing points where there is risk of disease spread,
 - b. Conduct screenings for travelers with fever, rash, vomiting, diarrhea, and hemorrhage at the borders.
 - c. Implement temperature monitoring, infection prevention and control measures and other public health measures at the borders.
 - d. Share EVD related information along with COVID-19 and other infection control information at borders
2. Member States should continue to perform contact tracing and follow up of all probable and confirmed cases.
3. Member States should scale up infection prevention and control measures in health care settings.
4. All Member States should notify and routinely share data about confirmed EVD cases, deaths, recoveries, tests conducted and healthcare workers infected with WHO and Africa CDC. Notify Africa CDC by emailing: AfricaCDCEBS@africa-union.org.

² [WHO | Ebola virus disease – Guinea](#) and [Ebola virus disease – Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)

³ [Ebola virus disease outbreak in Guinea, 2021](#)

5. Member States should continue to provide information to the general public about how and where to seek immediate medical care for EVD when they develop symptoms.
6. 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.
7. At-risk countries should put in place approvals for investigational medicines and vaccines as an immediate priority preparedness action plan.

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](#)