

Outbreak Brief #15: Ebola virus disease (EVD)

Date of Issue: 1 June 2021

23 cases, 12 deaths, and 10 recoveries

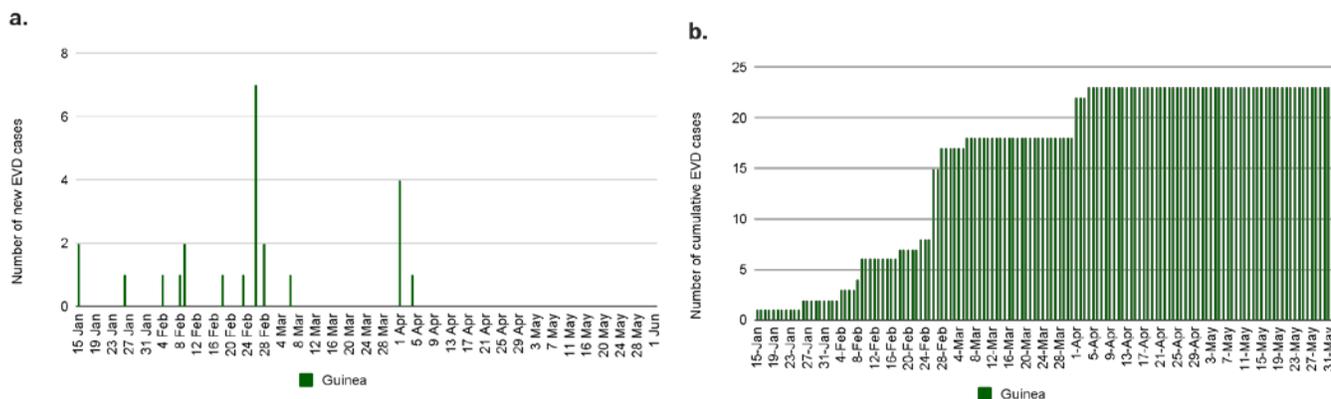
Data sources: African Union Member States

Outbreak Update: Since 25 May 2021, no new cases or deaths from Ebola virus disease (EVD) have been reported in Guinea. Cumulatively 23 cases, 12 deaths (**CFR: 52.1%**), and 10 recoveries of EVD have been reported. This includes five health care workers. The last confirmed EVD case and death was reported on 4 April 2021. A 42-day countdown was started on 8 May 2021 to declare the end of Guinea's EVD outbreak (18 days remaining). A total of 10,873 persons have been vaccinated against EVD in Guinea since the beginning of the outbreak.

Guinea continues with Viral Hemorrhagic Fever (VHF) surveillance and on 17 May 2021, the Ministry of Health (MoH) declared an outbreak of Lassa fever in Yamou prefecture, NZérékoré region. A fatal case of Lassa fever was confirmed and no new case has been reported to date.

Member States bordering Guinea continue to remain vigilant. Sierra Leone has reported 50 alerts since the onset of EVD in Guinea. Forty-eight of these alerts were investigated and tested negative for Ebola virus (but one tested positive for Lassa fever); two were notified after burial. Since the onset of the outbreak, 468 persons have been vaccinated in Sierra Leone against EVD.

Figure 1: New (a) and cumulative (b) cases reported by day in Guinea, 15 January - 1 June 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 events being reported for Guinea. The World Health Organization¹ and European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control² have also issued risk assessments for the Ebola virus disease events.

Africa CDC Response Activities

- Africa CDC continues its weekly press briefing on the EVD situation in Guinea 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.
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.

¹ [WHO | Ebola virus disease – Guinea](#)

² [Ebola virus disease outbreak in Guinea, 2021](#)

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](#)