

## 2014-15 EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE (EVD) OUTBREAK

### MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR BC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

For May 14 to June 17, 2015

#### OVERVIEW

There has been an ongoing epidemic of Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in West Africa since March 2014. Since mid-May, increases in intensity and geographical spread of EVD transmission have been observed in both Guinea and Sierra Leone. Unknown sources of infection, deaths in the community and unsafe burials continue to be reported in both countries. Due to the increased number of cases in the northwest region of Guinea, teams have been mobilized in Guinea-Bissau to assess several points of entry and sensitize the communities in the region. Liberia was declared EVD-free on May 9.

#### EVD CASES (as of June 14, 2015)<sup>1</sup>

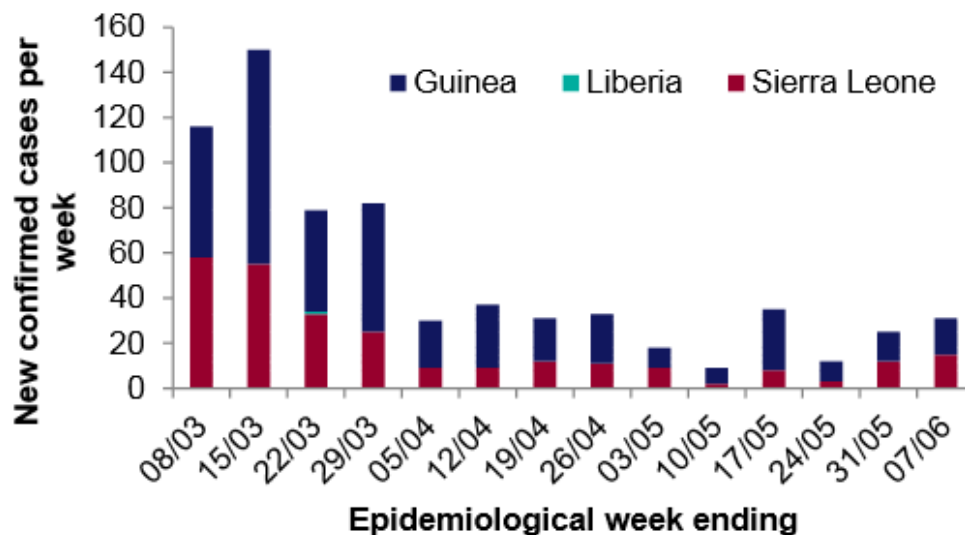
Overall: 27 341 cases, 11 184 deaths

#### COUNTRIES WITH WIDESPREAD AND INTENSE TRANSMISSION (West Africa)\*

Country	Cases**					
	Total <sup>1</sup>	Week to 17 May <sup>2</sup>	Week to 24 May <sup>3</sup>	Week to 31 May <sup>4</sup>	Week to 7 June <sup>1</sup>	Week to 14 June <sup>1</sup>
Liberia	10 666	-	-	-	-	-
Sierra Leone	12 965	8	3	12	15	14
Guinea	3 674	27	9	13	12	10

\* For more details, including most recent epidemic curves, please see the WHO Situation Report – 13 May at: <http://apps.who.int/ebola/en/current-situation/ebola-situation-report>; numbers are subject to change as data become available.

\*\*Total includes confirmed, probable and suspected cases; weekly counts include confirmed cases only.



**Figure 1.** Number of new confirmed cases reported per week (8 March to 7 June 2015) in countries reporting persistent transmission<sup>5</sup>

## INTERNATIONAL CONTROL ACTIVITIES AND FINDINGS

- An EVD-positive healthcare worker returning from Sierra Leone to Italy on May 7 tested negative for a second time on June 9; all 19 contacts have completed their 21-day monitoring period and none developed symptoms.<sup>1</sup>
- On May 9, the Government of Canada [stated](#) it will resume processing temporary resident and permanent resident applications from Liberia. In addition, the Public Health Agency of Canada has [revised the Travel Health Notice for Liberia](#) which now recommends travellers to that country practice special precautions instead of avoiding all non-essential travel.
- WHO has published a preliminary report on [health worker Ebola infections in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone](#) which summarizes the impact of the current EVD epidemic on the health workforce of these countries, investigates determinants of infection, and describes safe practices implemented to protect health workers during the epidemic. In addition, interim guidance on the [selection and use of Ebola in vitro diagnostic \(IVD\) assays](#) has been made available by the WHO.

## BRITISH COLUMBIA AND CANADIAN RESPONSE

- The Provincial Ebola Preparedness Task Force continues to meet to address clinical and public health issues, as well as manage communications. Guidelines have been developed in-line with provincial and national recommendations to inform emergency preparedness activities. Approved policies and guidelines are currently available on the [Provincial Health Officer's Ebola Web-Site](#).
- BC is conducting surveillance of EVD cases and contacts, including returning travellers. There have been no EVD cases in BC. On June 17, 2015, there were six EVD contacts under public health monitoring. Overall, between August 1, 2014 and June 17, 2015, there have been 76 EVD contacts reported in BC. Three of these developed symptoms; all tested negative for Ebola.

## GUIDANCE AND OTHER RESOURCES

National guidance including case definitions, care report form, and public health, clinical care and infection control guidelines:

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/vhf-fvh/ebola-professionals-professionnels-eng.php>

Public Health Agency of Canada travel notices: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/tmp-pmv/notices-avis/index-eng.php>

BCCDC Ebola webpage: <http://www.bccdc.ca/dis-cond/a-z/e/Ebola/default.htm>

BC Provincial Health Office: <http://www.health.gov.bc.ca/pho/physician-resources-ebola.html>

BC HealthLink: <http://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthfeatures/ebola-virus-disease.html>

## REFERENCES

1. World Health Organization. (2015, June 17). Ebola Response Roadmap Situation Report Update. Retrieved from: <http://apps.who.int/ebola/current-situation/ebola-situation-report-17-june-2015>
2. World Health Organization. (2015, May 20). Ebola Response Roadmap Situation Report Update. Retrieved from: <http://apps.who.int/ebola/en/current-situation/ebola-situation-report-20-may-2015>
3. World Health Organization. (2015, May 27). Ebola Response Roadmap Situation Report Update. Retrieved from: <http://apps.who.int/ebola/current-situation/ebola-situation-report-27-may-2015>
4. World Health Organization. (2015, June 3). Ebola Response Roadmap Situation Report Update. Retrieved from: <http://apps.who.int/ebola/en/current-situation/ebola-situation-report-3-june-2015>
5. Public Health England. (2015, June 12). Ebola Epidemiological Update No. 39: 12 June 2015. Retrieved from: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ebola-virus-disease-epidemiological-update>