## Welcome



Ready to respond to an outbreak of Ebola or Marburg disease: what's new in Infection Prevention and Control?



Image source WHO Photo Library



# Opening remarks: Dr N. Emiroglu





### Speaker introductions

Victoria Willet, IPC Technical Officer, WHO HQ (Geneva), Country Readiness Strengthening

Dr Folasade Ogunsala, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Lagos, Co-Chair of Guideline Development Group

Dr Elizabeth Katswegiye, IPC Specialist, Uganda Ministry of Health







### **Objectives**

- 1. Promote awareness of the newly published evidence-based guideline for Infection prevention and control for Ebola and Marburg disease
- 2. **Discuss changes** and **new** recommendations
- 3. **Share a country's experience** implementing these recommendations during an outbreak response





#### Why a new guideline?

- Increased experiences since the West African outbreak 2014-2016 and subsequent outbreaks
- Continued suboptimal practices seen during outbreaks
- Lack of standardization during outbreaks by implementing partners leading to confusion and increased risk to health and care workers
- Need for evidence-based guidelines

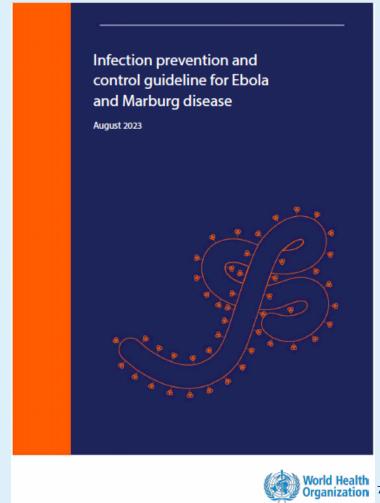


Image source WHO Photo Library



## Previous interim guidance (published in 2014-2016) are replaced with the new 2023 guideline





#### **Guideline recommendations**

#### **Includes:**

- ✓ 9 "carry forward" recommendations from previous WHO guidelines
- √ 11 new recommendations
- √ 10 new good practice statements

#### Follows Evidence to Decision and GRADE process:

 ✓ Low quality of evidence obtained during the evidence review --> many recommendations are conditional (may be adapted for specific conditions/contexts)





# Highlights from the new guideline:

Prof. Folasade Ogunsola



Image source WHO Photo Library



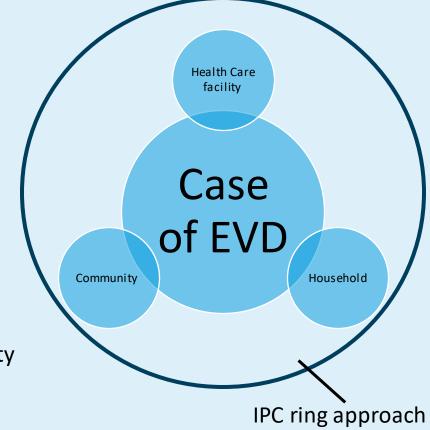
## **Highlights: IPC ring approach**

New!

- Strategy to provide rapid, intensive IPC support for health care facilities and community settings in areas of active transmission.
- Involves targeted prioritization of IPC/WASH activities
- Includes use of standardized IPC score card (for use for Ebola/Marburg disease only)



Non-affected community





## Highlights: Continued importance of hand hygiene

- Alcohol based hand rub (ABHR) or soap and water is recommended for hand hygiene
- Chlorine only if no other option (interim period/emergency)







New!

- Different settings/roles may pose different level of risk of exposure: screening, triage, direct/indirect care of patients, hygienists/mortuary workers etc.
- Screening is critical for early/rapid identification of suspected patients and immediately isolate them
- Whenever >1 meter distance and no touch technique is followed: NO PPE e.g. screening
  - Use barriers (e.g. table to maintain distances)
- If < 1 meter distance recommendations for PPE vary based on task being conducted e.g. triage, direct/indirect care of patients





## **Highlights: Patient placement**



- Patients should be placed in single rooms with dedicated toilets
- Do not cohort suspected with confirmed patients
- Importance of ability for patients to interact with visitors/family in a safe way which also promotes well-being of the patient



Image source: WHO photo library © WHO / Christopher Black



Highlights: WHO discourages spraying of people (e.g. health and care workers/patients), environment and dead bodies



Image source WHO Photo Library





Highlights: Strong recommendation against spraying health and care workers e.g. during PPE removal process



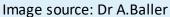


New!

## Highlights: Environmental cleaning and disinfection

- Cleaning must occur before disinfection.
- Cleaning and disinfection of surfaces using wiping is preferred over spraying.
- Conditional recommendation and therefore may need adapting based on the context.
- Regardless of method it is important to ensure adequate coverage, an appropriate film and sufficient contact time.







## Highlights: Safe handling of the deceased



- Should be done in a safe, culturally sensitive manner, and only when necessary
- Disinfection of a dead body suspected or confirmed to be infected with Ebolavirus or Marburgvirus is not required prior to handling or placing the body into a body bag.







## Highlights: Health and care worker exposures

- Exposure to Ebola disease or Marburg disease should immediately be assessed for exposure risk, including other potential exposures (e.g. HIV, HBV, HCV), and managed accordingly.
- Process needs to be in place to address potential exposures.
- Health and care workers exposed to *Ebolavirus*or *Marburgvirus* should be excluded from work
  for 21 days from last exposure.





Image source WHO Photo Library



#### **Final reflections**

- Many practices used in past outbreaks of Ebola and Marburg disease are ingrained although they are not supported by evidence or principles of infection prevention and control.
- This document is a first step towards use of standard and transmission-based precautions for Ebola and Marburg disease.
- During the process research gaps have been identified which will help strengthen future recommendations.



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CCBY



# Implementing the new guideline during an outbreak:

A country experience from the Uganda SVD outbreak 2022







Dr. Elizabeth Katwesigye Infection Prevention and Control, MoH, Uganda

### What went well and some practices that were difficult to changehow to address

Adaptation of evidence based Ebola IPC guidelines – MoH approved Ebola IPC SOPs early in the outbreak

Use of an Ebola IPC HCF rapid assessment tool

Implementation of RING IPC strategy

\*IPC trainings and Mentorships to update on the new evidence based recommendations \*Decontamination by spraying, use of footbaths outside ETU areas, disinfecting before cleaning

\*Happy shower

\*Decontamination of re usable items used by Ebola suspect and confirmed cases e.g. linen

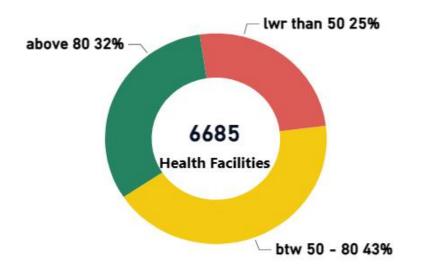
NB: Challenges to implement new guidance in the outbreak





## Using the score card to drive response activities and highlight areas for improvement

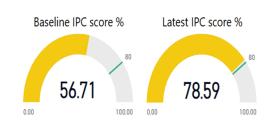
Proportion of Health facility by IPC Score and the Average IPC score % (Sept 2022 – Aug 31, 2023)









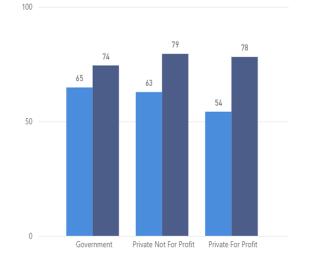


IPC Progress score initial against latest

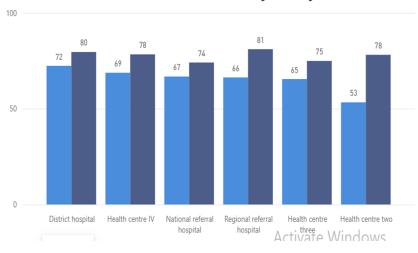
assessment (Sept 2022 – Aug 31, 2023)

3261 Health Facility with at least two assessments









#### **Implementing IPC Ring**

- **Technical support** to MOH and partners on the Ring IPC approach and its implementation, including SOP, training modules, and practical exercises for successful activation
- A total of **324** Ring IPC kits procured were procured and **32** IPC rings were completed (Figure 2 shows the distribution of IPC rings by District)
- A total of **88 HCWs were trained on IPC** within 48 hours of activation of a ring.
- Support provided to **ensure decontamination** of all healthcare facilities and households as identified.
- \*Under the priority 2 of the Recovery plan MoH with support from partners;

**305 HCWS were trained in RING IPC and IPC best practice** in 5 high risk affected districts (Kampala, Jinja, Mubende, Kasanda and Masaka).

Barchart below shows implementation of RING IPC during the 2022- 2-23 SUVD outbreak

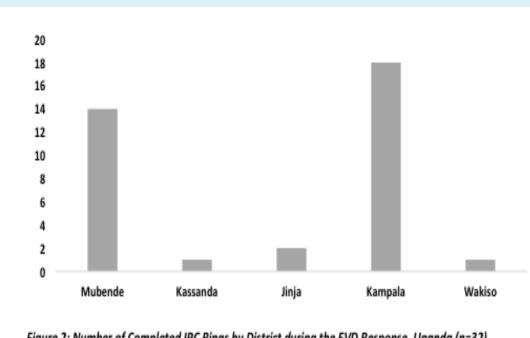


Figure 2: Number of Completed IPC Rings by District during the EVD Response, Uganda (n=32)



#### Identifying health worker *Ebolavirus* exposures

#### Identifucation

- Encourage health workers to self-report potential exposures to SVD within the facility
- Create a work environment that encourages early and open disclosure of exposures in a non-punitive manner
- Surveillance, and investigation teams during the contact tracing process,
- Case and/or family members/proxies,
- Ring IPC teams

#### Investigation

Use of the HCW exposure Checklist



- ✓ Provide better understanding of IPC lapses that led to exposure
- ✓ Find areas for improvement of IPC practices
- ✓ Prevent further exposures





#### Risk assessment form for health workers with an occupational exposure to Ebola

This form should be completed for all health workers who have been exposed to a patient with Ebola, their body fluids, or objects contaminated with body fluids. The form aids in the risk assessment for health workers (HW's) after exposure to determine the risk categorization of each HW and inform the management of the exposed HW based on risk. This form is applicable for the Ebola virus (EBOV) belonging to Sudan Ebolavirus species and Zaive Ebolavirus species in the Genus Ebolavirus

c. Interviewer phone number:  d. Verbal consent obtained:   Yes	1. Interviewer information			
number:  d. Verbal consent obtained:	a. Interviewer name:			
number:  d. Verbal consent obtained:   Yes   No (specify reason)  2. Health worker information  a. Last name:   b. First name:   c. Age:   d. Sex   Male   Female   Prefer not to answer  e. Village of residence:   f. District:   g. Phone number:   h. Occupation:   Medical doctor   Nurse   Medical doctor   Healthcare student     Radiology /K-ray technician   Philebotomist     Physical therapist   Nutritionist/dietitian	b. Interview date:			
d. Verbal consent obtained:	c. Interviewer phone			
2. Health worker information a. Last name: b. First name: c. Age: d. Sex				
a. Last name:  b. First name:  c. Age:  d. Sex	d. Verbal consent obtained:	□ Yes □ No (specify reason)		
b. First name:  c. Age:  d. Sex	2. Health worker information			
c. Age:  d. Sex				
d. Sex				
e. Village of residence:  f. District:  g. Phone number:  h. Occupation:    Medical doctor	c. Age:			
f. District:  g. Phone number:  h. Occupation:    Medical doctor	d. Sex	☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Prefer not to answer		
g. Phone number:  h. Occupation:    Medical doctor				
h. Occupation:    Medical doctor	f. District:			
Midwife	g. Phone number:			
□ Radiology /X-ray technician □ Phlebotomist □ Physical therapist □ Nutritionist/dietitian	h. Occupation:			
□ Physical therapist □ Nutritionist/dietitian		□ Midwife	☐ Healthcare student	
		□ Radiology /X-ray technician	□ Phlebotomist	
C Dharmanist floodunisian or disposes C Laborators account		□ Physical therapist	□ Nutritionist/dietitian	
☐ Pharmadst/technidan or dispenser ☐ Laboratory personnel		☐ Pharmacist/technician or dispenser	□ Laboratory personnel	
□ Volunteer □ Patient transporter			□ Patient transporter	
□ Office staff/Administrator □ Cleaner (hygienist)		□ Office staff/Administrator	□ Cleaner (hygienist)	
□ Catering staff □ Ambulance driver		□ Catering staff	□ Ambulance driver	
□ Vaccinator □ Security guard		□ Vaccinator	□ Security guard	
□ Traditional healer □ Community health worker			□ Community health worker	
□ Other (specify):				
i. Which patient care	i. Which patient care	□ Ebola Treatment Unit	□ Ebola Screening/triage	
units/service areas are you    Outpatient Department (OPD)    Inpatient Department (IPD)	units/service areas are you	☐ Outpatient Department (OPD)		
□ Emergency □ Maternity		□ Emergency	□ Maternity	

## Pictorial highlights from the IPC SVD response













INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC) WEBINAR FOR HEALTH WORKERS

#### IN MASAKA REGION

Topics; **OVERVIEW OF SUDAN EBOLA VIRUS CRITICAL IPC MEASURES** INPATIENT SURVEILLANCE.

#### Be vigilant, Protect Yourself.

Tuesday 08 November 2022 02:00pm EAT,

Meeting ID: 852 4367 0140 Passcode: 104470











**PRESENTERS** 





IPC Focal Person



How Uganda is moving forward with preparedness and readiness based on lessons learnt?

01

#### Lessons learnt from SUVD outbreak

- After the declaration of end of outbreak the MoH held district and National AAR to understand What worked well, Best practices, Impact enabling factor to improve countries Preparedness readiness and response to future Ebola outbreaks.
- Documented need for National IPC standardised guidance for IPC for outbreaks



02

#### POST EVD 180 day Recovery Plan

• The Ministry of health with support from partners endorsed a 180 day Post EVD recovery plan

03

#### **Implementation of IPC Priorities**

- Establish national IPC Programme to strengthen, sustain and institutionalise IPC in Uganda
- Strengthen IPC readiness capacities for Ebola and other diseases of epidemic potential at public and private healthcare facilities in preparation for future outbreak responses
- Strengthen IPC implementation capacities for Ebola and other diseases of epidemic potential at high risk borders and Port of Entry (PoE).:

04

#### **Establishment of a national IPC program**

• Build a business case for IPC; Develop a five year IPC strategic plan 2023-2028 and update the National IPC guidelines (adopting the recently published WHO Ebola IPC guidelines)

## Thank you for your attention

Questions?

Email us at wheipc@who.int



