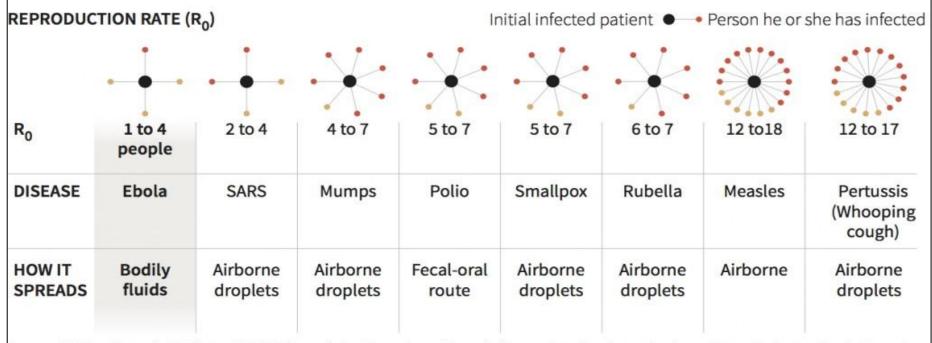


Ebola virus

Type: Figure; Reuters News Agency

How contagious is Ebola?

How the Ebola virus compares with other contagious viruses. The reproduction rate or R₀, calculates the number of people likely to be infected by one person who has a disease.



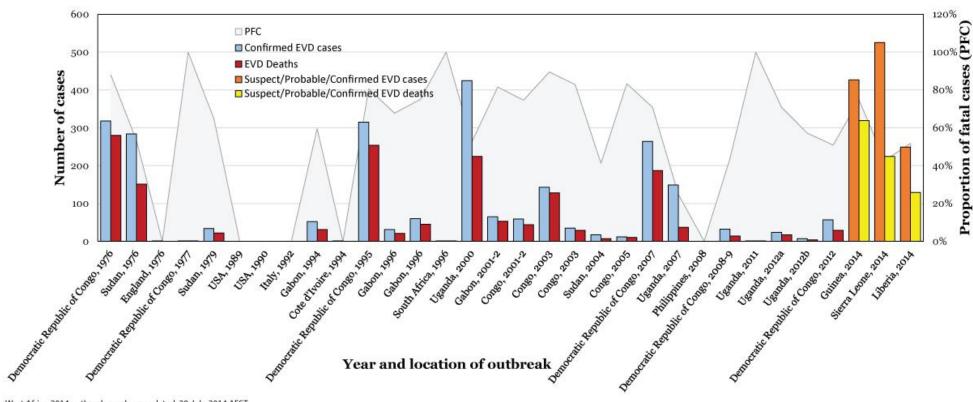
Sources: Michigan Center for Public Health; WHO; Transmission Dynamics and Control of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, Nature; Understanding the Dynamics of Ebola Epidemics, National Institute of Health

M. Murray, M. Weber, 3/10/2014

REUTERS

Type: Graph / data; Web report

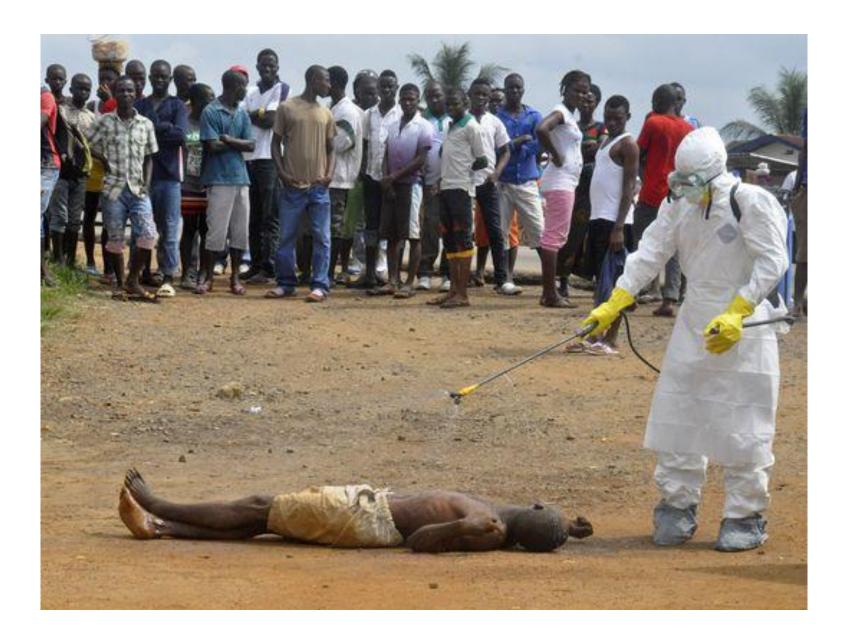
Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreaks



West Africa-2014 outbreak numbers updated: 28-July-2014 AEST
Source: Public Health England: http://www.hpa.org.uk/Topics/InfectiousDiseases/InfectionsAZ/Ebola/GeneralInformation/
World Helath Organization: http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs103/en/

virologydownunder.blogspot.com.au Ian M Mackay, PhD

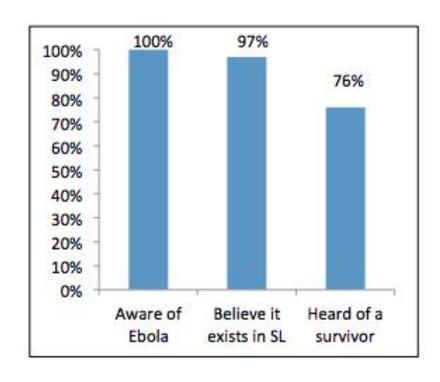




Type: Data; cross-sectional survey

Awareness is high, denial is low, but there are serious misconceptions.

Everyone in Sierra Leone has heard of Ebola and nearly everyone believes that it exists in the country (97%). About 77% of respondents have heard of someone who survived Ebola. Nonetheless, nearly one-third of respondents believe that EVD is transmitted by air or through mosquito bites. About 2 in 5 respondents believe that they can protect themselves from Ebola by washing with salt and hot water while nearly 1 in 5 believe that spiritual healers can successfully treat the disease – such belief is more higher in Western Urban and Rural (32-45%) as compared to other parts of the country. Regarding risk perceptions, 36% believe that they are at no risk of contracting Ebola within the next 6 months while nearly the same proportion (34%) believes that they are at great risk.



UNICEF, FOCUS 1000 and Catholic Relief Services (2014) Study on Public Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices Relating to Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Prevention and Medical Care in Sierra Leone.

Type: Qualitative findings from quantiative and qualitative study; Scientific journal

Health-enhancing beliefs and practices	Health-lowering beliefs and practices
Most national government health workers and decision makers spoke local language and had an understanding of local cultures	Unintended consequences of WHO ^a health education video: burning of houses of survivors
Establishment of isolation unit and use of barrier nursing	Taking bodies to burial ground before family members could verify the death. This practice led to sick persons hiding from family and health workers; family members being afraid to take sick persons to hospital; persons running away from the ambulance; and stories of Europeans selling body parts
Providing gloves and bleach to local communities	Omitting traditional healers from control efforts; they were ready and willing as a group to help mobilize the community
Medical care of Ebola victims including rehydration, control of vomiting, other drugs/medications	Early stages only: 1) nurses and healthcare nurses lacked training about barrier nursing, protective gear, and education about the transmission and nature of the disease; 2) lack of transport for sick patients; 3) international health workers not familiar with naming, kinship system, household organization of local communities
Multidimensional health education	Taking blood samples for research only or blood taken without reporting results back to persons or communities' increased distrust of healthcare workers
Suspension of the following activities: handshaking upon greeting, cutting by traditional healers, schools, discos, public funerals, traditional beer drinking	International team members conducting EHF studies for research only. This diverted time and energy from control efforts
Diagnostic laboratories for Ebola	
Ambulances to transport patients to hospital to isolate	
Reallocation of tasks of health workers to focus on EHF	

Type: Image; Local Health Promotion effort





Type: Image; National Health Promotion effort



You can only get Ebola from touching bodily fluids of a person who is sick with or has died from Ebola, or from exposure to contaminated objects, such as needles. **Ebola poses no significant risk in the United States.**



Type: Image; Daily Mail Front Page



KILLER VIRUS IN BRITAIN





Type: Views from the Public; Daily Mail

When is information going to go out for people stay put if they suspect Ebola. And when are people travelling from infected areas going to be quarantined?

Very, very sad but confusing..The doctors are telling us not to worry because it is a difficult disease to catch. Yet this poor girl worked with it and knew the risks, precautions., etc, etc yet still managed to contract it...How?

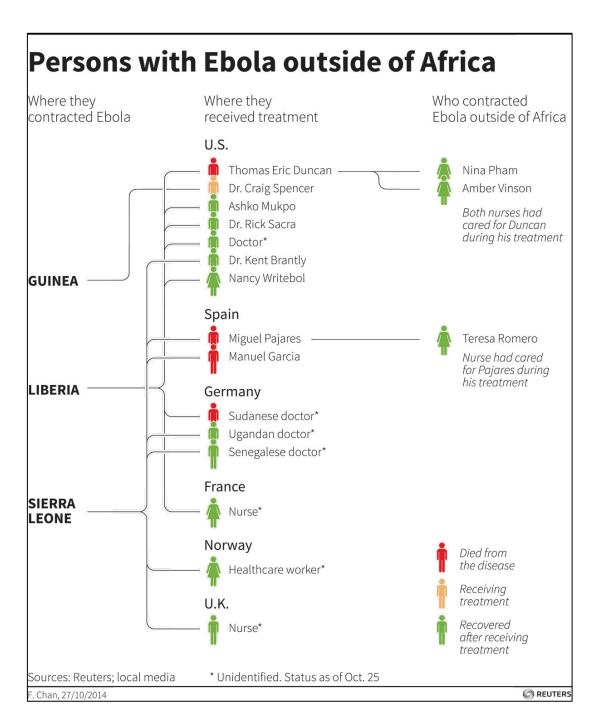
I don't understand why u would fly to the Uk and infect everyone on the plane and in the country

Why are people from other countries going to Africa to treat the highly contiguous ebola? Coming back to the uk putting other people at risk and possibility of an outbreak here in the uk? Who would come to our country to treat us if this does happen? Why are the medical staff in Africa not treating the people. Stay in you own country medical staff to stop putting a world wide epidemic. Quetrine / put people in isolation in Arica to keep ebola wher it first started for this reason.

no cure, im scared of the potential of this virus, if it has only started too get a grip, no country is prepared to deal with an outbreak really, i don't believe it will ever be 100% gone.

Comments from Daily Mail article on UK health care staff working in Ebola-infected areas returning home to UK, Dec 2014

Type: Figure; Reuters News Agency



Type: Views/Experiences of a Nurse; Media Clip

"I came in the following morning and she was covered in blood. She still had a very puzzled expression on her face... erm, and she wasn't breathing. So I put her in a bag and left her next to her brother... She was a beautiful little girl.

So my specific fear is that the horror and and the misery of these deaths really fill a well of my despair... and I just, I just don't know what happens if that's repeated a million times. And so I say, at all costs, we can't let that happen."

Quote taken from a video clip of British nurse William Pooley recalling his experience treating Ebola in Sierra Leone

Type: Views of a Medical Professional; Scientific journal

The Ebola epidemic has put great strain on the already weak African health infrastructure. Although quarantine measures are seen by some as ensuring the security of their population, it is clear that restrictive measures have the potential to discourage volunteering, reduce humanitarian assignments to west Africa, and stigmatise those travelling from affected countries. A travel ban could also affect research for new treatments and vaccines. Often researchers fly to study sites in Africa before then returning to their home countries; if this movement is restricted it will have a devastating effect on the progress that has been already made in treatment research. Better coordination and planning are urgently needed to avoid expansion of the Ebola outbreak, and to ensure that other endemic diseases are not further neglected. Such coordination will only be possible with a rational and evidence-based response.

Editorial, The Lancet Infectious Diseases, December 2014

Type: Qualitative data; Qualitative study

The community is no longer involved in burying of bodies we call the government burial team to help. People are now avoiding the sick and the dead. The Community Leaders have been making these changes to happen (Montserrado, Banjor, male Focus Group Discussion participant, age 26-63).

Before, we did not believe that Ebola was real. After so many deaths, followed by awareness on prevention from the health teams, such as washing hands, no touching dead bodies, avoiding sick persons, we believed...The changes came after two months in September 2012 (Lofa, Barkedu, male Focus Group Discussion participant, age 42-80).

People do not feel comfortable asking for help because they are afraid of being stigmatized or avoided by people...and it has not changed overtime (Montserrado, New Kru Town, male Key Informant interview, age 36).

As an imam, I don't only pray for my people, encourage them to keep washing their hands, they should not touch sick people and dead bodies. In the morning, I walk in the community to see whether people have Ebola buckets in front of their houses. Those who don't have, I tell them to get one and at times I recommend them to the Red Cross people to provide for them and they do get (Lofa, Barkedu, chief, imam KI, age).

The attitude and reactions have changed, now community members are encouraging survivors to tell their stories, give them food, clothing and incorporate the survivors in the community task force.

(Montserrado, New Kru Town, mixed FGD participant, age 47-64).

The government should stop the burning of bodies because it is not part of our culture. (Montserrado, New Kru Town, Christian religious leader KI, age).

USAID (2014) Community Perspectives about Ebola in Bong, Lofa and Montserrado Counties of Liberia: Results of a Qualitative Study.



PREVAIL Vaccine Trial, Liberia