

CDC opens emergency operations center for Congo Ebola outbreak

June 14 2019



(HealthDay)—The United States is stepping up its response to a historic

outbreak of Ebola in two African nations. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention activated its Emergency Operations Center Thursday to assist in the government's response to the second-largest outbreak of Ebola on record.

The announcement came as the deadly virus crossed the border from the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo to Uganda, where two have died. The outbreak, which has claimed more than 1,400 lives, is the largest in the Congo's history. Its spread to Uganda adds to the threat of a larger outbreak. This latest action by the CDC is part of the overall government response, and CDC experts will be working with other agencies in the Congo. The outbreak is centered in a region where armed conflict and other violence complicates the public health response, the CDC said. It has been helping curb the outbreak since last year.

The CDC emphasized that Ebola is not likely to spread around the world, and the announcement does not mean that its threat to the United States has increased. As such, the CDC guidelines for travel to the Congo and for groups sending aid to fight the epidemic remain unchanged. Those guidelines advise travelers to seek [medical care](#) immediately if they develop fever, headache, body aches, [sore throat](#), diarrhea or vomiting, weakness, stomach pain, rash, or red eyes during or after travel.

"Through CDC's command center we are consolidating our public health expertise and logistics planning for a longer-term, sustained effort to bring this complex epidemic to an end," CDC Director Robert Redfield, M.D., said in an agency news release.

More information: [More Information](#)

Citation: CDC opens emergency operations center for Congo Ebola outbreak (2019, June 14)
retrieved 18 April 2024 from

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2019-06-cdc-emergency-center-congo-ebola.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.