

RCCE - Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Webinar



RCCE Interventions on EVD Preparedness

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21 July 2026



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Background



While clinical and public health interventions are essential in controlling Ebola outbreaks, experience from previous outbreaks has consistently demonstrated that these **measures** are **most effective** when **communities are informed, engaged, and actively participate in the response**.

RCCE is a **key pillar of emergency preparedness and response**. Ensures that people **receive timely, accurate, and trusted information**, while also creating opportunities to **listen to community concerns**, understand perceptions, address misinformation, and promote behaviours that reduce the risk of disease transmission, **reduce fear and stigma, codesign**, and encourage acceptance of public health interventions.

RCCE plays a critical role in ensuring coordinated communication, meaningful community engagement, and a people-centred response across national, provincial, district, and community levels.



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Emergency Response Pillars



Where RCCE Fits

The emergency response pillars:

- | | | |
|--|-----------|--|
| | 1 | Coordination |
| | 2 | Surveillance (IDSR) |
| | 3 | Laboratory |
| | 4 | Case Management |
| | 5 | Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) |
| | 6 | Logistics |
| | 7 | Points of Entry |
| | 8 | Safe and Dignified Burials |
| | 9 | Mental Health and Psychosocial Support |
| | 10 | Vaccination |
| | 11 | RCCE |
-



Key message

RCCE is the operational bridge between communities and all response pillars.



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Why RCCE Matters in Ebola Preparedness

Key message

Ebola preparedness is not only about clinical readiness.

It requires communities that can:

- Detect unusual health events early
- Report suspected cases rapidly
- Adopt protective behaviours
- Participate in public health interventions
- Maintain trust throughout the response

RCCE strengthens the community interface of the public health system before, during and after an Ebola outbreak.



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RCCE Matters During Outbreaks - Coordination-2

All outbreaks bring together national, provincial, district, and partner RCCE teams to enhance our collective **understanding** of Ebola Virus Disease and to **strengthen our preparedness**, should an imported case or outbreak occur. RCCE **consist** of Communication, Health Promotion, ACSM, CHWs, PROs, and partners.

Reasons for the collaboration in the RCCE:

- **Strengthen RCCE capacity** to plan and implement **effective** communication and community engagement **interventions before**, during, and after an EVD event.
- Promote consistent, accurate, and evidence-based public messaging.
- Improve coordination among RCCE stakeholders across all levels of the health system.
- Address misinformation, rumours, stigma, and public concerns online and offline.



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RCCE Role During Preparedness



RCCE Across the Ebola Preparedness Continuum

Before an outbreak



- Community mapping
- Stakeholder engagement
- Risk assessment
- Preparedness messaging
- Simulation exercises

During an outbreak



- Risk communication
- Community engagement
- Rumour management
- Social listening
- Community feedback

Recovery



- Restoring trust
- Community healing
- After Action Reviews
- Preparedness strengthening



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National RCCE Interventions – EVD Toolkit for Preparedness



- Developed the RCCE Toolkit
- Community engagement information pack for community structures
- Community Feedback Tool – to manage offline rumours and misinformation



RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TOOLKIT FOR EBOLA PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE (2026)

CONTENTS:

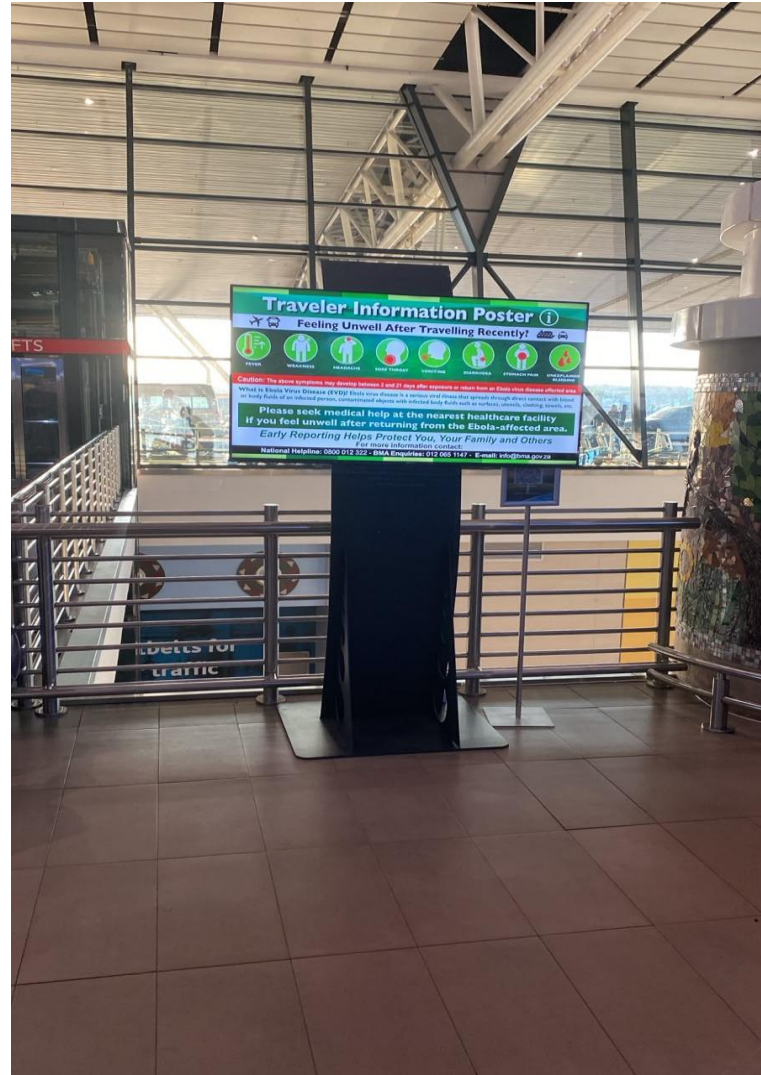
- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Section 1 | RCCE Systems Strengthening |
| Section 2 | Multi-Sectoral Strategic Approach |
| Section 3 | Risk Communication and Social Listening Online |
| Section 4 | Community Engagement and Community Feedback Offline |

EVD Q&A and IEC Material



- Airport screen poster developed
- Travellers poster
- Pamphlet
- Q&A for radio interviews/ shows
- Developed key messages
- Repository - weekly update
- QR code

Ebola Traveler Information QR Code



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Traveler Information Poster



Traveler Information Poster

Feeling Unwell After Travelling Recently?



FEVER



WEAKNESS



HEADACHE



SORE THROAT



VOMITING



DIARRHOEA



STOMACH PAIN



UNEXPLAINED BLEEDING

Caution:

The above symptoms may develop between 2 and 21 days after exposure or return from an Ebola virus disease affected area.

What is Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)?

Ebola virus disease is a serious viral illness that spreads through direct contact with blood or body fluids of an infected person, contaminated objects with infected body fluids such as surfaces, utensils, clothing, towels, etc.

Please seek medical help at the nearest healthcare facility if you feel unwell after returning from the Ebola-affected area.

Action:

If you feel unwell after exposure or return from an Ebola affected areas, please:

- Report immediately to the nearest healthcare facility,
- Avoid close direct contact with others,
- Follow guidance from the healthcare providers and authorities.

Early Reporting helps to...

- Protect your loved ones, family and the community.
- Support rapid medical assessment and care,
- Reduce unnecessary fear, panic and
- Strengthen public health preparedness.



Early Reporting Helps Protect You, Your Family and Others

For more information contact:

National Helpline: 0800 012 322 - BMA Enquiries: 012 085 1147 - E-mail: info@bma.gov.za

 @healthZA



RADIO TALK SHOW Q&A ON EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE (EVD)

Q1: What is Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)?

A1: Ebola is a severe viral illness that spreads through direct contact with blood or body fluids of an infected person, or contaminated objects like utensils, clothing, or surfaces. It does not spread from people without symptoms.

Q2: What symptoms should travelers and the public look out for?

A2: Common symptoms include fever, weakness, headache, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, stomach pain, and unexplained bleeding. These may appear between 2 and 21 days after exposure or travel from an affected area.

Q3: What should someone do if they feel unwell after travelling from an affected area?

A3: Report immediately to the nearest healthcare facility, inform the healthcare worker about your travel history, avoid close contact with others, and follow guidance from health authorities.



Social Listening and Community Feedback



Listening to communities helps us understand what is happening, address concerns, and act faster.

Collect intelligence from:



Community Health Workers (CHWs)



Community volunteers



Local leaders
(traditional, religious, youth, women)



Radio
(talk shows, call-ins, jingles)



Social media
(Facebook, WhatsApp, X, etc.)

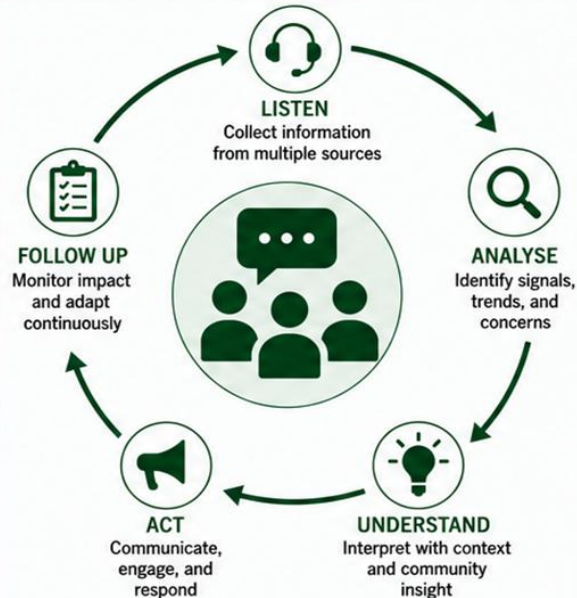


Hotlines
(toll-free numbers, SMS, chat)



Health facilities
(patients, caregivers, staff)

We listen. We analyse. We act.



Examples



Community says:

“People disappear after going to Ebola Treatment Centres.”



Operational response:

Improve transparency and community engagement around treatment centres.



Feedback from communities improves decisions, builds trust, and saves lives.



Communities are partners, not passive recipients. When we listen and act together, we protect everyone.



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National interventions: Media Interviews & Social Listening



South African scientists race to...

YouTube · CGTN Afr...
1 month ago



Ramaphosa Pledges \$5 Million...

YouTube · APT
1 month ago



Response to Ebola outbreak

YouTube · Newzroo...
1 month ago



Date: June 18, 2026
@AfricaCDC 's...

Facebook · Africa C...
4 weeks ago



AFRICA CDC ISSUES EBOLA...

YouTube · NBC Digi...
1 month ago

12:23 • 53

←  HealthZA
1K followers

#SAVIC Edited 15:04
➞ 5

MEDIA INTERVIEW


Dr Aaron Motsoaledi.
Minister of Health

DATE: Tuesday, 07 July 2026
TIME: 07:10
CHANNEL: ENCA 403

TOPIC: The state of South Africa's readiness in the event of an Ebola outbreak.

 *A long and healthy life for all South Africans* 

#MediaInterview with Minister of Health, Dr Aaron Motsoaledi, on South Africa's state of readiness in the event of an Ebola outbreak.

Date: Tuesday, 07 July 2026
Time: 07:10
Channel: eNCA 403

➞ 134

07 July 2026



Social Media – NDoH Facebook

WHO IS AT HIGHER RISK?

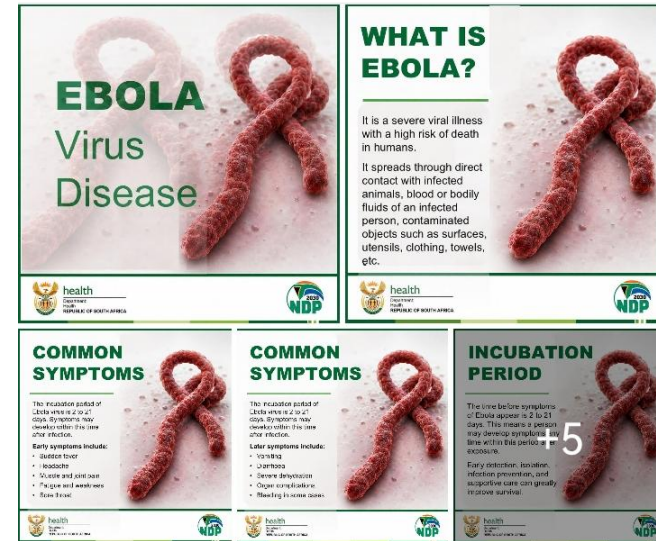
People at higher risk of Ebola infection include:

- Hunters and people who come into contact with wild animals
- Caregivers of infected persons
- Healthcare workers
- Travellers
- People involved in burial rituals that include direct contact with the body



← Posts you may have missed 🔍

#Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) is a severe illness with a high risk of death in huma... See more



👍👏 275

78 comments • 146 shares

👍 Like

💬 Comment

➦ Share



Allan Burns

They are getting really desperate to make this stick but we all know people are not gonna... See more

Like Reply



Jarek Mazur DJ-Yarecki



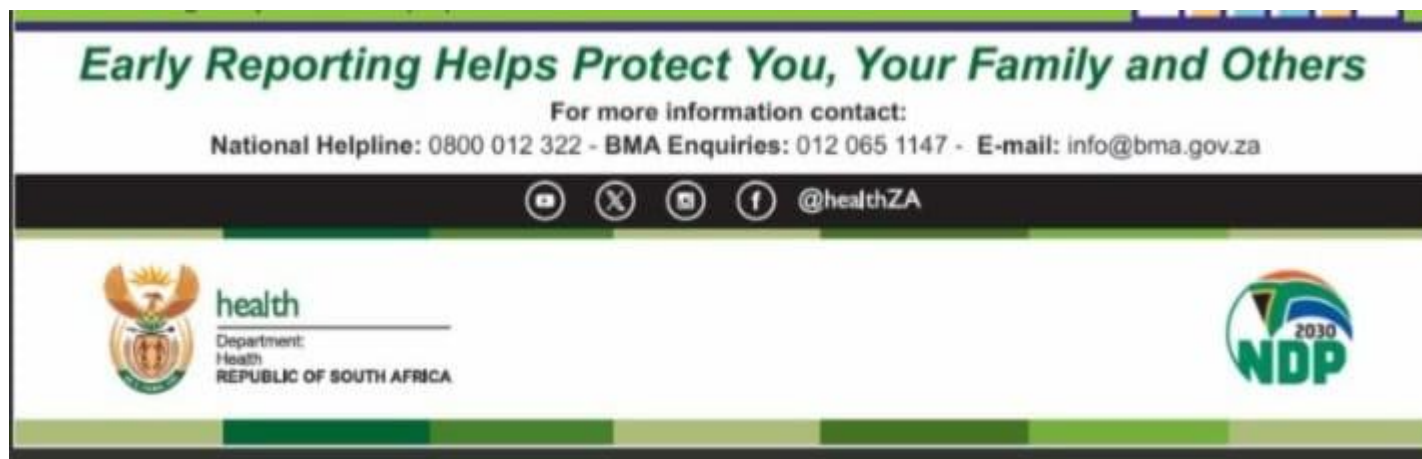
Like Reply



**楊政諺
騙打針**

Like Reply

Capacity Building - National Health Help-line



- Capacity building planned for helpline teams
- Date: 23 July 2026
- PHEOC team – facilitate workshop
- Link to be developed for complex response – PHEOC team
- Other RCCE sessions will be coordinated for all levels



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HOW RCCE CHANGES ACROSS THE EMERGENCY CYCLE

RCCE adapts to the needs of communities and the health system as the emergency evolves.



RCCE evolves across the emergency cycle—
from **building readiness**, to **enabling response**,
to **strengthening recovery** and future preparedness.



Stronger
communities



The result:
Timely detection
and action



Lives saved



More resilient
communities



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THANK YOU



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