Update on Rift Valley Fever
- Yirol county and the interventions

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Outline

- Introduction
- Lab results
- Risk assessment
- The response
- Discussion
Introduction

- Several meetings held to discuss RVF since May 2020
- Joint missions conducted 29 Oct – 5 Nov 2020 and on 17 – 23 Dec 2020
- Participants: Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, FAO, Ministry of Health, WHO, Min of Wildlife (1st mission)
Several meeting held to discuss RVF since May 2020
- 53 samples were collected 5 tested positive for RVF IgM, 6 samples were doubtful (considered positive) and 42 tested negative.
- The results of 160 animal sample tests from the second mission (17 – 24 Dec 2020) are shown below:
Lab results – Central Vet lab

Lab test results – 1st mission

- Positive: 10%
- Negative: 79%
- Doubtful: 11%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>RVF- IgM</th>
<th>RVF – IgG</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cattle (N= 70)</td>
<td>2 (3 %)</td>
<td>27 (39%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goat (N= 81)</td>
<td>1 (1%)</td>
<td>8 (10%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep (N= 9)</td>
<td>0 (0 %)</td>
<td>1 (11%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lab results

Summary (2\textsuperscript{nd} mission):

- Out of 70 cattle samples, 2 (3\%) tested positive for RVF IgM and 27 (39\%) tested positive for RVF IgG. One goat sample tested positive for RVF-IgM and 8 tested positive IgG, none of the sheep samples tested positive IgM whilst one sample tested positive for IgG.

Human samples

- 5 human samples were collected – feedback from WHO (30 Jan 2021) is that they are yet to receive the results.
- Sensitivity low for RVF human surveillance; focus on livestock surveillance to detect abortion storms and mitigation actions
Risk assessment

Risk factors

- High risk that RVF is in circulation in Yirol county with possible spill over to neighbouring counties / states
- This could be linked to cattle raiding, flood related displacement, livestock trade, seasonal movement in search of pastures and water for livestock, and movement due to insecurity.
Counties at risk

- Yirol and Awerial counties; Rumbek centre, Rumbek North – whole of Lakes state?
- Jonglei state – Bor South, Twic East, Duk county
- Unity state – Panyinjiar county
- Central Equatoria – Terekeka, Juba counties (trade + flood related displacement etc)
- Eastern Equatoria – Magwi county (flood related displacement)
The response

- There is ongoing collaboration between FAO, WHO, Min of Livestock and Fisheries, Min of Health technical staff.
- FAO is supporting the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries to send samples to the OIE Reference Laboratory in South Africa. Awareness campaigns were initiated (radio, posters etc) + ongoing actions working with the partner / government at state / county levels.
- Sensitization of the UN Country Team / Senior Management (29 Jan 2020)
- Radio programmes launched
- Dissemination of posters
The response

- Ongoing coordination between FAO, WHO, partners and government technical staff to discuss further actions. FAO and WHO have suggested a joint ministerial statement on RVF alert and a declaration of suspected cases whilst we wait for the confirmatory PCR test results from the OIE Reference lab. A draft statement has been developed.

- Ongoing support to EPI – Lab (field surveillance and lab diagnostic capacity)

- Results disseminated to all partners and FAO within the region (ECTAD. SFE) and Partners after clearances with the MLF

- FAO and the Ministry of Livestock deploying a team to Yirol to work with state teams (WHO, MoH, county animal health)
The response

**WHO and Ministry of Health**

- Heightened human RVF surveillance to detect and collect human samples from suspect cases given the risk of disease spillover.

  • Heightened risk communication to prevent exposure to potentially infectious animal products – carcass; beef; arboirus

  • Regular updates on suspect cases (animal and human)

  • Regular coordination meetings involving human and animal stakeholders to review the situation and update the RVF preparedness and response plans and strategies.
Other Actions

- Decision Support Tool
- Climatological data and dissemination at community level - FAO
Partners matrix
- Yirol and Aweria counties – NPA / FAO/ WHO/ MOH/MLF
- Rumbek centre - VSF G
- Rumbek North - ICRC
- Bor South, Twic East – VSF G
- Duk county – FAO direct implementation
- Unity state – Panyinjiar county; VSF Suisse
- Central Equatoria – Terekeka, Juba counties: SAADO, VSF G
- Eastern Equatoria – Magwi county - FAO direct implementation
THANK YOU!