





#### Ebola in West Africa





#### Previous Ebola Outbreaks 1976 - 2014



#### EBOLAVIRUS OUTBREAKS BY SPECIES AND SIZE, 1976 - 2014

# Species Number of Cases Zaire ebolavirus 0 1 - 10 Sudan ebolavirus 11 - 100 Tai Forest ebolavirus 101 - 300 Bundibugyo ebolavirus Greater than 300 reported cases

## Ebola 101

- Reservoir
  - Fruit Bats are believed to be the reservoir
- Transmission
  - Contact with infected animals
  - Direct contact with bodily fluids of an infected person
- Incubation Period
  - Typically 8-10 days
  - Range 2 21 days
- Prevention
  - Hand-washing
  - Avoid Body Contact
  - Personal Protective Equipment for healthcare workers, burial teams, etc.

# Signs and symptoms of Ebola

- Fever
- Severe headache
- Muscle pain
- Weakness
- Fatigue
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Abdominal (stomach) pain
- Unexplained hemorrhage (bleeding or bruising)



#### **EBOLA OUTBREAK IN WEST AFRICA**

#### **WHO Ebola Situation Report**

Number of cases and deaths by country as of April 26, 2015



Cases Deaths

Sources: WHO Ebola Outbreak in West Africa - Case Counts; WHO SITREP, 26 April 2015

## Main Sources of Infection

- Taking care of sick people
  - Healthcare workers, family members
- Burial practices
  - Traditional burial practices include washing and touching the body of the deceased





#### **SIERRA LEONE**







TYPES OF UNCCINE WIFEVER J5106-1

### **Cumlative Cases by District**



## Ebola Response - Port Loko

- Command Center (British Military)
  - Sierra Leone military head up different sections, partner with NGOs
    - Alerts, Surveillance, Ambulance, Burial Team, Decon, Quarantine, Food distribution, Contact Tracers, etc.

#### Alert system

- 117 call system for community and health care providers to report possible cases and dead bodies
- Surveillance team dispatched to investigate alerts
- If meet case definition Command Center dispatches ambulance for transport to a holding center
  - Case definition Fever + contact with suspect EVD OR
  - Fever and 2 other symptoms OR
  - 3 Ebola symptoms

#### Port Loko Command Center





## **Ebola Holding Centers**

- Suspect patients divided by dry and wet symptoms; bed spacing
- Blood drawn
  - Ebola
  - Malaria
- Results usually in 24 hours
  - If negative symptom onset at least 72 hours?
    - No hold and re-test 72 hrs post symptom onset
    - Yes release
    - Report result to command center
  - If positive
    - Transport to treatment center

#### **Ebola Holding and Treatment Centers**











## **Positive Ebola Cases**

- Lab results communicated to Command Center
- Contact tracers dispatched to gather line list
- 21 day quarantine for all contacts
   Daily follow up
- Food distribution for quarantined households
- Social mobilization teams to educate community
- Decon team dispatched to decontaminate home







### Orphanage



#### **Ebola Prevention**



#### **Burial team**



**Checkpoint Hand-washing station** 



#### Treatment

- There is no cure for Ebola
- In Sierra Leone, ~40% mortality rate
- Treatment is mostly about preventing dehydration





## Ebola Vaccine ?

- No licensed vaccines currently
- Several vaccines being developed
- Clinical trials in humans with 2 vaccines underway
  - Liberia January 2015
  - Sierra Leone April 2015





## Vaccine Phase2/3 Trials Underway

- ChAd3-ZEBOV Chimp adenovirus vaccine, GSK/NIAD. Safety/Efficacy trial in Liberia
- rVSV-ZEBOV recombinant vesicular stomatitis vaccine, NewLink Genetics and Merck Vaccines USA, in collaboration with the Public Health Agency of Canada, trials in Liberia and Sierra Leone

#### STRIVE

#### Sierra Leone Trial to Introduce a Vaccine Against Ebola



#### Sierra Leone Study Partners

□ Sierra Leone College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences

□ Sierra Leone Ministry of Health and Sanitation

□ U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority

# rVSV - ZEBOV Vaccine – how does it work?

- The Vesicular Stomatitis Virus is the vector
  - VSV infects animals
  - Does not cause illness in humans
- Vaccine contains a piece of Ebola virus
  - Does NOT contain live Ebola Virus
  - You cannot get Ebola from the vaccine
- Has only been tested in small numbers of people
  - Generally safe
  - Antibody response
  - Prevent Ebola?????

## Ebola VSV Vaccine

- The Ebola VSV vaccine takes out the piece of the VSV virus that tells the body it is VSV
- This piece is replaced with a small piece of the Ebola virus.
  - This tricks the body into thinking it is seeing Ebola, and the body makes antibodies to fight Ebola



## Objectives

- Introduce an Ebola vaccine among people at high-risk for getting Ebola
- Measure how *effective* the vaccine is in preventing Ebola among adult front line Ebola response workers in Sierra Leone
- Measure how *safe* the vaccine is by monitoring participants for possible adverse events after vaccination

#### **Study Design**

#### Unblinded, randomized trial with phased introduction of vaccine (no placebo)

- Enrolled responders will be randomly assigned to receive the vaccine shortly after enrollment or approximately 6 months later
- Participants will be followed for development of Ebola and SAEs
  - Subset of participants will participate in a reactogenecity study
  - Immunogenicity trial also being planned

Vaccine effectiveness will be measured by comparing disease incidence in persons vaccinated earlier versus later

#### **Study Target Population**

#### □ Study groups (~6,000 persons):

- All adults working in facilities that provide health care (Ebola or non-Ebola related)
- Surveillance officers, ambulance teams, workers responsible for swabbing deceased persons, burial team members

#### □ Study districts:

- 4 districts
  - Western: All areas (Urban and Rural)
  - Selected chiefdoms in Port Loko, Bombali, Tonkolili

#### Sierra Leone Districts



#### Confirmed Ebola Cases By Chiefdom, Port Loko, MOHS VHF Data, 22 Dec - 28 Dec 2014



#### **Exclusion Criteria**

- □ Pregnant and breastfeeding women
- □ History of HIV or other immune disorder
- □ History of serious allergic reaction to any vaccine
- **Ebola virus disease survivors**
- Prior vaccination with an Ebola or Marburg virus vaccine

#### PLK Vaccine Team 3&4



#### **Informational Sessions**









#### Vaccination Site







## Challenges

- Cold Chain
  - Vaccine must be stored at 80 celsius
  - Dosing
  - Transport to vaccination sites
- Vaccine side effects
  - Mild flu like symptoms = Ebola case definition
- Poor health infrastructure
- No experience with any clinical trials in Sierra Leone
- Declining cases
- Language and literacy consent issues
- Messaging re: continued use of PPE
- Other trials
  - Treatment trials
  - Lab test trials
  - Other vaccine trials (Johnson and Johnson vaccine)

#### Ebola Heroes

<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9rHaoQ</u>
 <u>bFrs</u>

