

In case of a reply, the number and the date of this letter should be quoted.



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**28<sup>th</sup> July, 2022.**

**For Immediate Release**

**TO ALL MEDIA HOUSES**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**UPDATE ON MARBURG VIRUS DISEASE OUTBREAK IN GHANA**

The Ghana Health Service on Sunday, 24 July, 2022 reported four cases of Marburg Virus Disease (MVD) following test results from the Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR). The second case, a 51-year-old male with a known chronic disease and not linked to the first case was, however, awaiting re-testing. Repeat test results received from NMIMR on 28 July 2022 were negative for MVD, bringing the total number of confirmed cases to **three** (3). All three cases are related (father, mother and son). The summaries of the cases are as follows:

- Case 1: A 26-year-old male, got ill on 22 June 2022 and later bled from the nose and mouth, was admitted to a hospital in Ashanti Region on 26 June 2022 and died 28 hours after admission.
- Case 2: A one-year two-month-old contact of Case 1 (son of Case 1); got ill and was admitted on 17 July 2022. He died on the third day of admission.
- Case 3: A 24-year-old female (mother of Case 2 and wife of Case 1). She is alive and well. She has since Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022 been in a government-designated isolation centre, and is being managed with full implementation of strict infection prevention and control measures.

Initially, 118 contacts were identified and followed up including the two who later tested positive (Case 2 and Case 3). The remaining 116 contacts have completed the mandatory 21-day follow up and are all well. **Sixteen (16)** contacts, including healthcare workers, have been randomly tested and are all negative.

A new set of 81 contacts for Case 2 and Case 3 are currently under follow up. **Efforts are ongoing to identify additional contacts if any.**

It is noteworthy that Ghana, in collaboration with Partners, has demonstrated capacity to respond to public health emergencies. Our resilient health system has been responsible for the early detection of and prompt response to outbreaks including the current MVD. A number of healthcare workers were recently trained on the management of viral haemorrhagic fevers across the country even before the first MVD was detected.

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Ghana's National Public Health Emergency Operations Centre has been activated and is at the fore in the planning and implementation of the response measures in collaboration with Partners. National support teams have been deployed to the affected regions to provide the necessary support to ensure containment of the outbreak.

The Service wishes to assure the general public that all efforts are being made to prevent any further spread of cases. We wish to encourage all persons to report to the nearest health facility if unwell for appropriate care.

The Service remains committed to protecting the health of Ghana's population and will continue to implement measures to attain and maintain this.

**SIGNED**  
**DR. PATRICK KUMA-ABOAGYE**  
**DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

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