

# Letter to the Editor

## Ebola outbreak in west Africa

Dear editor, we would like to discuss on the report on Ebola outbreak in west Africa [1]. Mbonye et al. noted that “several factors have contributed to the successful quick containment of Ebola outbreaks in Uganda [1].” In fact, the widespread of Ebola infection in Africa is due to several reasons including to the limited medical facilities. Of interest, when any emerging infectious diseases occur in poor countries, the problem is usually difficult to control. As noted by Mbonye et al<sup>1</sup>, “political support” is an important thing that determines the success of the disease control. However, there are many factors that can make difficulty to disease control. First, at the early stage of infection, the practitioner usually lack for knowledge and there are extremely limited diagnostic tool and therapeutic facilities<sup>2,3</sup>. Hence, the rapid spread in the acute phase of outbreak can be expected. Second, although the Ebola infection usually results in severe clinical presentation it can also be asymptomatic<sup>4-5</sup>. This can be a difficulty for disease screening and control.

Beuy Joob<sup>1</sup>, Viroj Wiwanitkit<sup>2</sup>

1. Sanitation 1 Medical Academic Center, Bangkok Thailand

2. Visiting professor, Hainan Medical University, China; adjunct professor, Joseph Ayobabalola University, Nigeria

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4314/ahs.v14i4.42>

### Corresponding author:

Beuy Joob

Sanitation 1 Medical Academic  
Center, Bangkok Thailand

Email: beuyjoob@hotmail.com

### References

1. Mbonye AK, Wamala JF, Nanyunja M, Opio A, Makumbi I, Aceng JR. Ebola viral hemorrhagic disease outbreak in west Africa- lessons from Uganda. *Afr Health Sci*. 2014 Sep;14(3):495-501.
2. Tumwine J. Ebola and other issues in the health sector in *Africa*. *Afr Health Sci*. 2014 Sep;14(3):i-iii.
3. Wiwanitkit V. New emerging West Africa Ebola 2014: the present global threaten. *Asian Pac J Trop Biomed* 2014; 4(Suppl 2): S539-S540.
4. Leroy EM, Baize S, Volchkov VE, Fisher-Hoch SP, Georges-Courbot MC, Lansoud-Soukate J, Capron M, Debré P, McCormick JB, Georges AJ. Human asymptomatic Ebola infection and strong inflammatory response. *Lancet*. 2000 Jun 24;355(9222):2210-5.
5. Leroy EM, Baize S, Debre P, Lansoud-Soukate J, Mavoungou E. Early immune responses accompanying human asymptomatic Ebola infections. *Clin Exp Immunol*. 2001 Jun;124(3):453-60.