



# VHF QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

## HEALTHCARE WORKER – LABORATORY

### BEFORE AN OUTBREAK

#### CASE MANAGEMENT

- Pre-knowledge of designated Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers (VHFs) laboratories and testing centres as well as distribution of list of focal persons in these laboratories
- Train designated phlebotomist on sample collection, packaging and transportation
- Develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for safe handling of samples
- Conduct audits of human personnel, equipment, reagents and consumables in designated VHF testing laboratories.
- Ensure adequate stock of consumables/reagents.
- Ensure designated laboratories have SOPs in place to promote quality service

#### INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC)

- Good knowledge of bio-safety requirements for VHF samples handling

#### SURVEILLANCE

- Understand the reporting and feedback process to sample originating States and the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC)
- Laboratory data management system should be clearly defined and functional.

### DURING AN OUTBREAK

#### CASE MANAGEMENT

- VHF sample collection by trained personnel in appropriate PPEs
- Inform designated laboratory about samples which are being sent from the State
- Ensure triple package and ship samples to designated VHF testing laboratory
- Result released within the shortest turnaround time
- Establish communication of results with State Epidemiologist and referring health facility

#### INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC)

- Bio-safety measures to be complied with during sample collection
- Proper waste management in accordance with stipulated guidelines

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## DURING AN OUTBREAK

### SURVEILLANCE

- 24hr/day testing to be available during outbreak
- Establish communication with surveillance team for sharing of outbreak reports
- Result sharing and harmonization of laboratory results with surveillance data
- Notify State Epidemiologist of sample originating State when sample is received from other sources.
- Provide feedback to State Epidemiologist on sample result as soon as testing is completed.
- Ensure NCDC is equally notified of the sample result.
- Sample result can be shared via SMS, or voice call. Either way, email (including scanned copy of laboratory form) should be sent to respective States copying NCDC Surveillance.

## AFTER AN OUTBREAK

### CASE MANAGEMENT

- Review of Laboratory System in outbreak response and incorporation of lessons learnt

### SURVEILLANCE

- Data storage for future reference
- Review of Laboratory System in Outbreak Response and incorporation of lessons learnt