



# MINISTRY OF HEALTH

## THE WEEKLY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL BULLETIN

**WEEK 41: 5<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020**

Dear Reader,

We are pleased to share our 41<sup>st</sup> weekly epidemiological bulletin for the year 2020. This epidemiological bulletin serves to inform all stakeholders at district, national, and global levels on disease trends, public health surveillance and interventions undertaken in detecting, preventing and responding to public health events in Uganda on a weekly basis.

### In this issue, we showcase the following updates

- ◆ Uganda updates on COVID-19
- ◆ Health worker infections amidst COVID-19 response
- ◆ Suspected rabies (Animal bites\_dog bites)
- ◆ TB Emergency response updates
- ◆ National suspected epidemic prone diseases
- ◆ National, regional and district weekly surveillance reporting

For comments please contact: *Dr. Allan Muruta, Commissioner, Department of Integrated Epidemiology, Surveillance and Public Health Emergencies - MoH; P.O BOX 7272 Kampala, Tel: 080010066 (toll free); Email: esd@health.go.ug or esdugandazz@gmail.com*

### Current public health threats

#### COVID-19 as of 11<sup>th</sup> October 2020

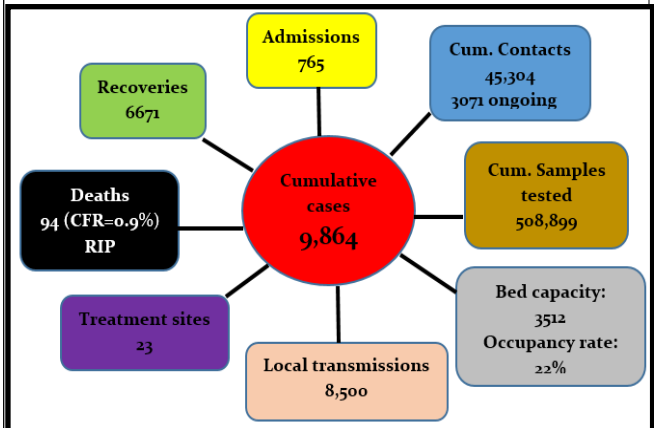


Fig 1a: COVID-19 Local Transmission (N=8500)

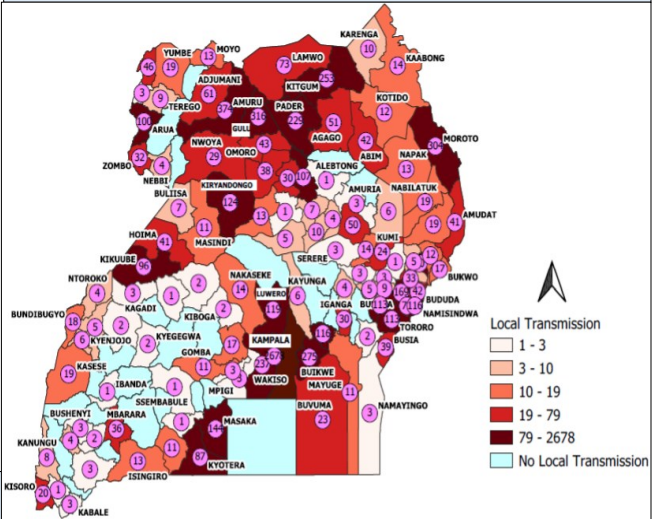
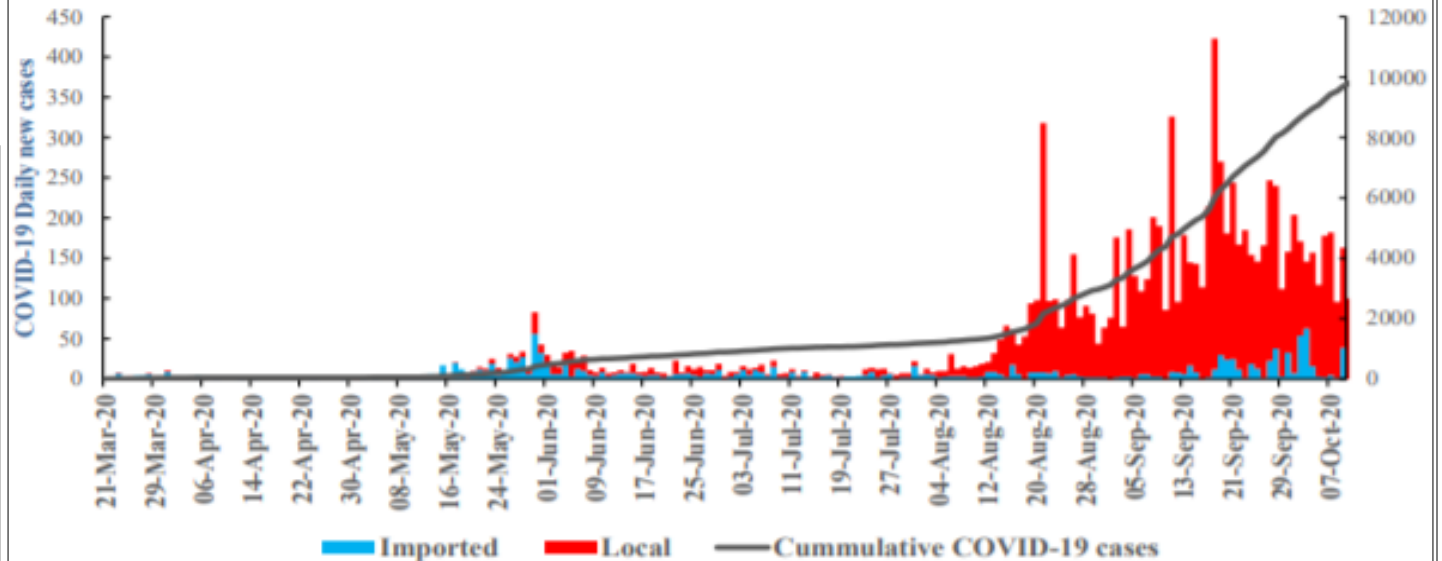


Fig 1b: Epidemic curve of COVID-19 as of 11<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020 (n=9864)



Source: COVID-19 Surveillance data

## COVID-19 infections among health workers (n=674) as 11<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020

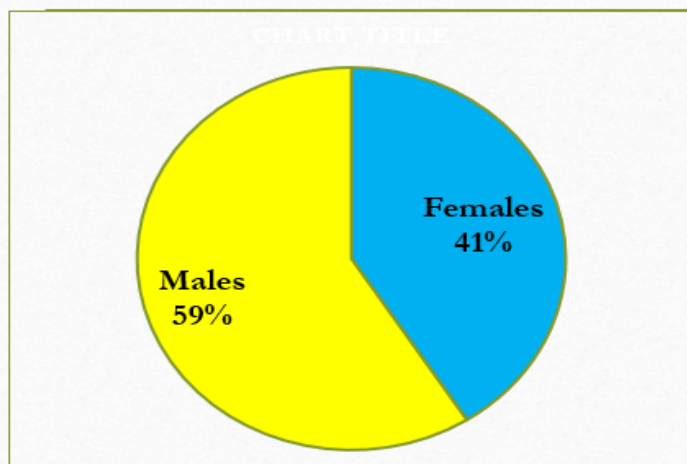
- The criteria for classifying Health Workers (HW) includes all staff involved in direct and indirect provision of care to patients
- These may include; Clinicians, Physicians other Allied Health Professionals and auxiliary health workers such as Cleaner, Drivers, laundry personnel, x-ray physicians among others
- 59% of HW cases registered are males

### Common factors

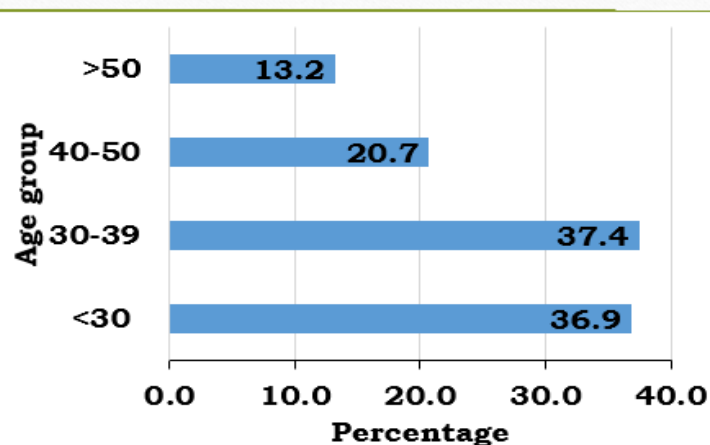
- Burnout among responders
- Non adherence to PPE
- Congregations in workplaces
- Low index of suspicion
- Inadequate training
- Communal mass gatherings
- Communal transport
- Prolonged Turn around Time

## Distribution of health workers by sex and age-group May-Oct 2020

### By Gender



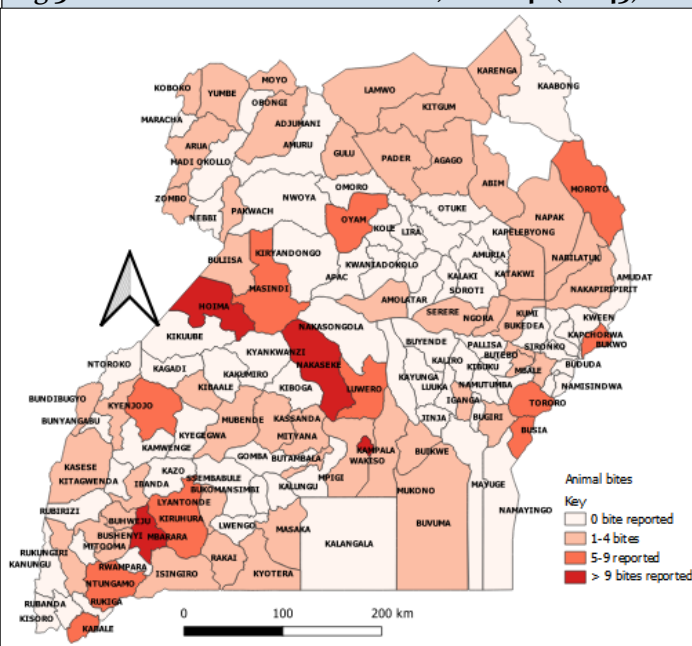
### By Age group



## Suspected Rabies (Animal Bites)

- There is a gradual increase in number of animal bites since the beginning of this year
- Kampala (24) reported the highest number of bites

Fig 3: Distribution of Animal bites, week 41 (n=145)



## Tuberculosis (TB), week 41

### Statistics

- National OPD TB screening (%) for week 41 was 44%
- 35% (559/1607) TB cases diagnosed nationally in week 41
- National weekly reporting (%) for week 41 was 84%
- TB case diagnosis in the response areas
- 30% (28/92) in Acholi Region ,
- 25% (26/102) in Lango Region
- 64%(44/69) in Karamoja Region
- 4%(7/301) among presumptive confirmed in Prisons

Fig : National weekly TB case finding against Target

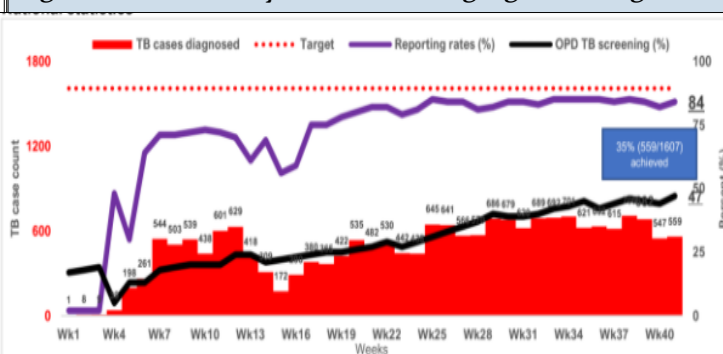


Figure 1: National weekly TB case finding against target, reporting and OPD TB screening rates (%), Week 1-41, Uganda

## Priority Diseases

The data presented in table 1 consists of suspected cases. The data shows high numbers of water borne diseases such as; typhoid, Malaria, and cholera, dysentery in different parts of the country.

**Tab 1: Suspected Cases of epidemic prone Diseases, wk 41**

Conditions	Cases	Deaths	CFR(%)
AFP	9	0	0.0
AEFIs	2	0	0.0
Animal bites	145	0	0.0
Bacterial Meningitis	0	0	0.0
Cholera	0	0	0.0
Guinea Worm	0	0	0.0
Malaria	38012	23	0.07
Hepatitis B	79	0	0.0
Measles	51	0	0.0
NNT	0	0	0.0
Plague	0	0	0.0
Other Suspected			
VHFs	1	0	0.0
SARI	89	0	0.0
Typhoid fever	873	0	0.0
Yellow fever	0	0	0.0
Anthrax	0	0	0.0
Leprosy	0	0	0.0
RR T.B	2	0	0.0

Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI), Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers (VHF), Neonatal Tetanus (NNT), Tuberculosis (T.B), Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP), Adverse Events Following Immunisation

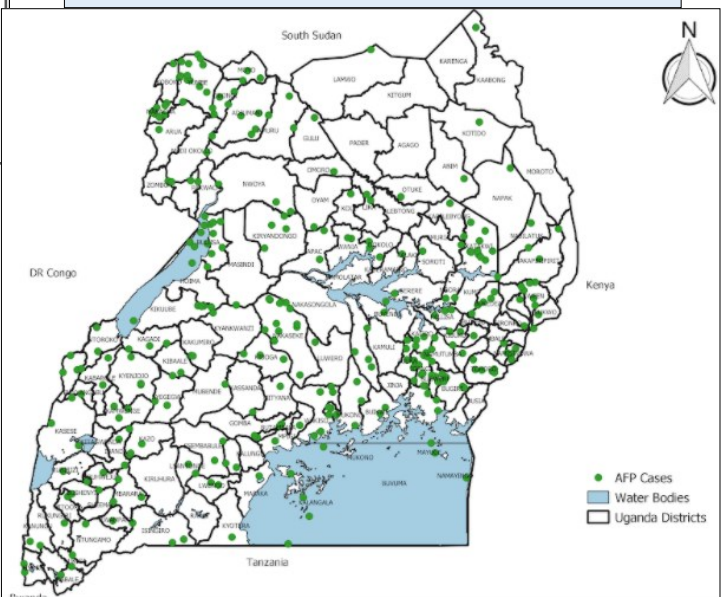
## Measles (Confirmed cases)

- Cumulatively, Seventy-nine (82) districts have detected and investigated at least one suspected measles case.
- 36/81 districts reporting measles cases have had at least one positive IgM case

## Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) Surveillance

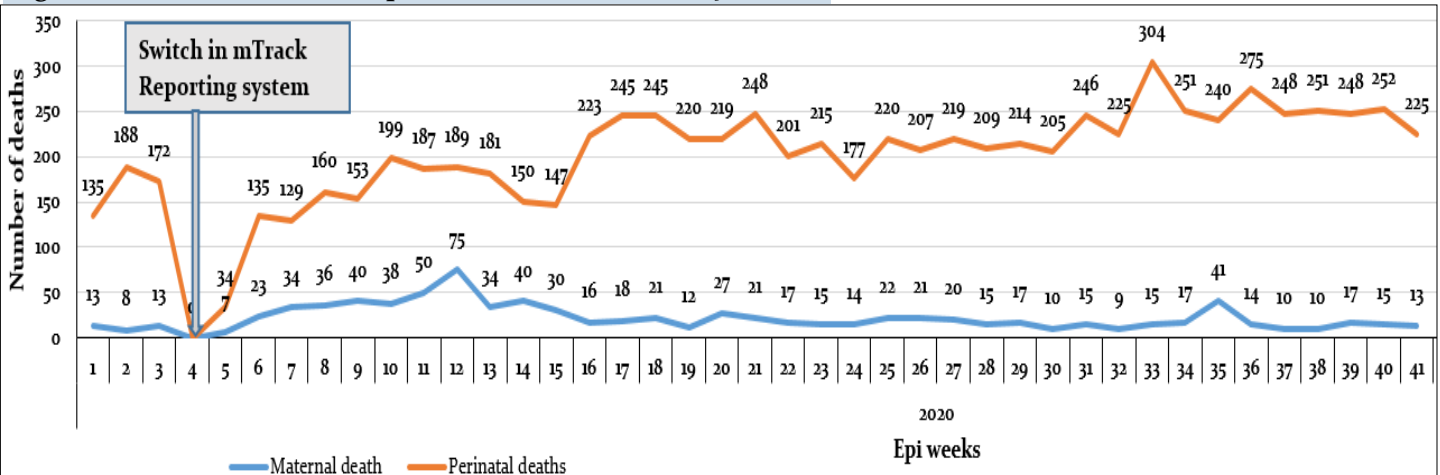
- The 9 AFP cases were from the districts of Butambala 1, Katakwi 1, Kazo 1, Lyantonde 1, Masaka 1, Mbarara 1, Nakaseke 1, Rukiga 1, and Yumbe 1
- The Non-polio AFP rate is 1.37/100,000 children 0 - 14 years compared with 2.34/100,000 children 0 -14 years in 2019
- The adequate samples collection rate is 93.58% compared with 90.47% in 2019
- NPENT rate is 12.81% compared with NPENT rate of 14.04% in 2019
- A total of 9 AFP cases was reported during week 41 compared with 5 cases reported in week 40
- Silent districts; Agago, Amudat, Amolatar, Alebtong, Butebo, Bududa, Busia, Buvuma, Gomba, Jinja, Kaberamaido, Kalungu, Karenga, Kitgum, Kitagwenda, Kiruhura, Kamuli, Kassanda, Kyankwanzi, Medi Okollo, Moroto, Nakasongol, Pader, Rakai Rubanda, and Sironko (fig 5)

**Fig 5: AFP cases by District, week 41**



Data source: EPI lab

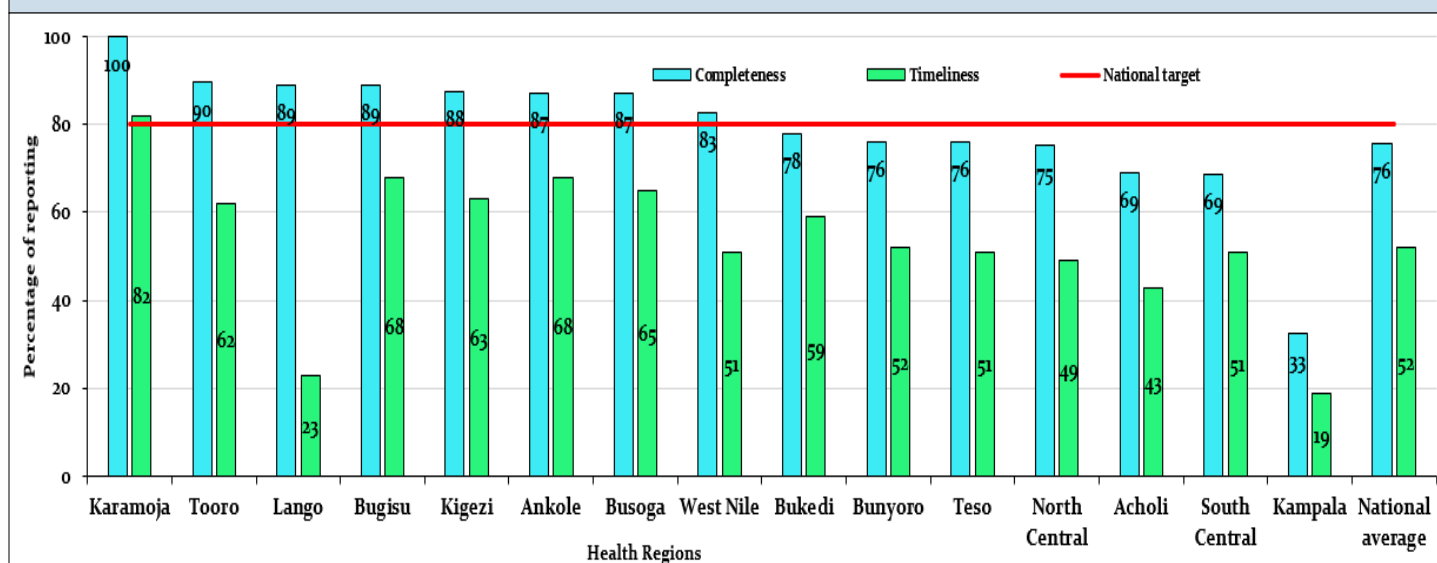
**Fig 6. Trends of maternal and perinatal deaths week 1– 41, 2020**



**Table 2: Distribution of maternal deaths (15) and perinatal deaths (225), week 41**

Maternal deaths			Perinatal deaths					
District	Health Facility Name	Maternal death-Deaths	District	Macerated Still births - Deaths	District	Fresh Still Birth - Deaths	District	Early Neo-natal deaths 0-7 days -
Kampala	Nsambya	1	Kampala	13	Kampala	11	Kampala	19
	Kawempe	1	Mubende	6	Kabarole	7	Kasese	5
Arua	Kulu Hosp	1	Gulu	5	Mubende	4	Masaka	5
Zombo	Kango HC III	1	Masaka	4	Masaka	4	Kitgum	5
Agago	Kalongo Hospita	1	Kamuli	4	Iganga	4	Mubende	3
Kamwenge	Rukunyu	1	Kabarole	3	Gulu	4	Bushenyi	3
Busia	Masafu	1	Iganga	3	Adjumani	3	Gulu	3
Bushenyi	KIU teaching	1	Adjumani	2	Ibanda	3	Kikuube	3
Kibaale	Kibaale HC IV	1	Kamwenge	2	Budaka	3	Arua	2
Kitgum	Kitgum Hosp	1	Wakiso	2	Kyotera	2	Kabarole	2
Mbale	Mbale RRH	1	Kayunga	2	Bundibugyo	2	Hoima	2
Gulu	St Mary's Lacor	1	Oyam	2	Kaabong	2	Kamuli	2
Tororo	Tororo Hosp	1	Mbale	2	Jinja	2	Mpigi	1
Hoima	Hoima RRH	1	Mayuge	1	Omoro	2	Lira	1
			Lira	1	Buhweju	2	Pakwach	1
			Mbarara	1	Kamwenge	2	Mbarara	1
			Bundibugyo	1	Busia	2	Rubirizi	1
			Nwoya	1	Kayunga	2	Ntungamo	1
			Agago	1	Oyam	2	Kamwenge	1
			Others	9	Others	29	others	7

**Fig 7: Completeness and Timeliness of weekly reporting per region, Epi week 41, 2020**

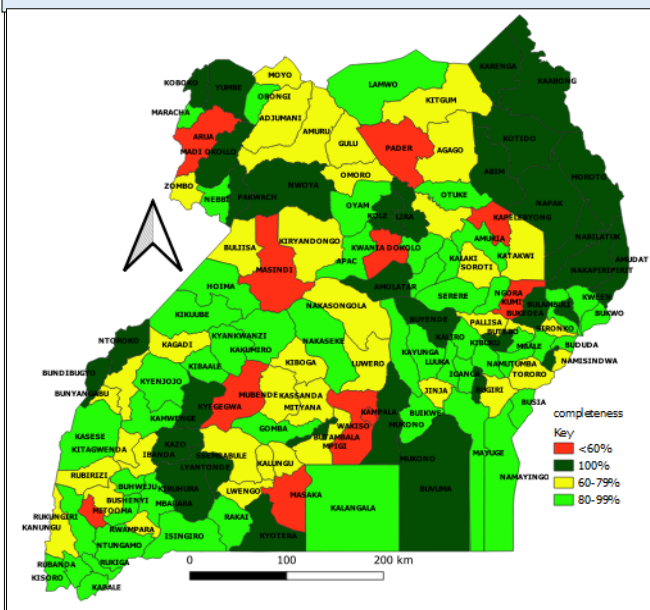


- Eight (8) regions achieved the national target of completeness of reporting with the highest reporting rates recorded in Karamoja (100), Bugisu (89), Tooro (90), Ankole (87), Busoga (84), Kigezi (88), Lango (80), and West Nile (80)
- National average reporting rate increased to 76% in week 41 from 74% in week 40
- Timeliness is still a challenge across the country.
- Only one region achieved the national Target (Karamoja region). National average timeliness of reporting was 52%

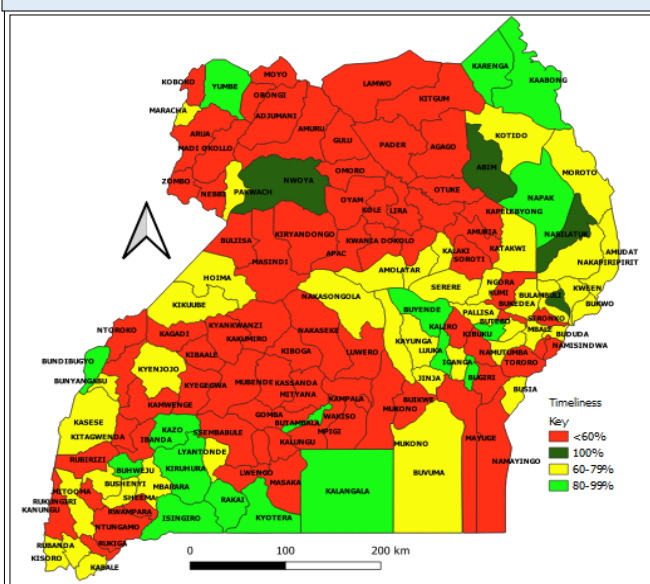
### Completeness and Timeliness of reporting by District

- There is a great improvement in completeness of reporting across all Districts (fig 8a)
- Majority of the districts reported late (fig 8b)

**Fig 8a: Completeness of reporting, week 41, 2020**



**Fig 8b: Timeliness of reporting, week 41, 2020**

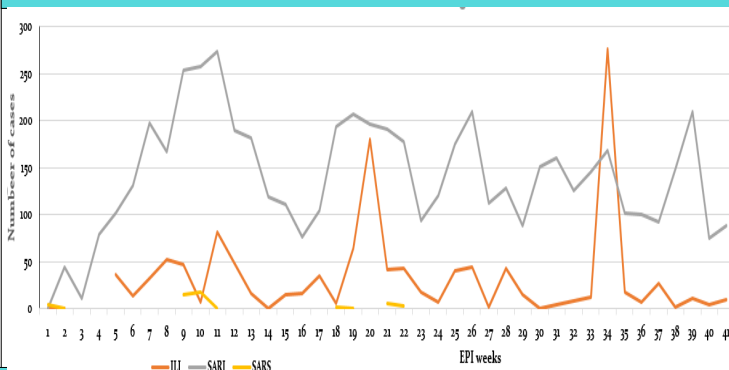


### Severe acute Respiratory Infections (SARI) amidst COVID

- SARIs are a significant cause of infectious disease morbidity and mortality
- Private health centers are reporting a surge of SARI especially in Kampala
- Differentiating COVID-19 from other SARIs is challenging
- Clinicians should be on the alert during assessments

- Particular emphasis should be put on patients presenting with Influenza like illnesses (ILI), Severe Acute Respiratory Illnesses (SARIs), and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
- There has been a gradual increase in the number of cases of SARI, ILI nationally

**Fig 9: Trends of suspected SARI, ILI and SARS 2020**



### Recommendations

- Veterinary officers at all levels are encouraged to sensitize communities on how to handle dogs. Owners of dogs should be sensitized to vaccinate their animals
- UNEPI reminds and encourages all the districts to carry out active search for AFP, NNT, EAFI and measles cases in their health facilities and communities.
- Maternal deaths and perinatal deaths audits should be conducted to address issues of excessive deaths of mothers and newborns especially for Kampala region.
- MoH is dedicated to providing relevant COVID-19 PPE and therefore encourages all HWs to adhere to SOPs

### Acknowledgement

- MOH acknowledges all efforts made by all districts and health facilities in surveillance activities

### Editorial team :

Allan Muruta, Carol Kyoziira, Godfrey Bwire , David Mwanguzi, Opolot John, Anne Nakinsige, Eldard Mabumba, Benard Lubwama, Leocadia Kwagonza, Harriet Mayinja, Specioza Katusiime, Maureen Nabatanzi, Apolo Ayebale, Freda Aceng, Godfrey Ekuka, Beatrice Chemisto, Turyahabwe Kenneth, Emma Arinaitwe, Job K., Robert Kato, Joyce Nguna, Milton Wetaka, Joshua Kayiwa, Jayne Tusiime.

**Remember, your feedback is important to us.**