



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

**STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT ON ALLEGED MALARIA OUTBREAK IN BUSIA
MUNICIPALITY**

Hon. Dr Joyce Moriku Kaducu

State Minister of Health in charge of Primary Health Care

July 18, 2019

**Rt. Hon. Speaker,
Hon. Members of Parliament,**

On Tuesday 09th July 2019, Hon. Macho Godfrey, MP Busia Municipality raised concerns of a Malaria outbreak killing people and the lack of medicine in Busia Municipality.

Malaria is a major public health problem associated with slow socio-economic development and the most frequently reported disease at both public and private health facilities in Uganda. Clinically diagnosed malaria is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality, accounting for 30-50% of outpatient visits at health facilities, 15-20% of all hospital admissions, and up to 20% of all hospital deaths. 27.2% of inpatient deaths among children under five years of age are due to malaria. A significant percentage of deaths occur at home and are not reported by the facility-based Health Management Information System (HMIS).

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Members of Parliament, Ministry of Health would like to inform this august house that there is NO Malaria outbreak in Busia Municipality but a seasonal variation which led to an increase in Malaria cases from 2,000 to 4,000 per week.

The malaria cases are expected to increase during this period due to heavy rains (May to July). While 11 malaria deaths were reported this year, no deaths due to Malaria have been reported in the last 3 weeks due to the interventions undertaken by Ministry of Health and partners.

The interventions include;

- Community sensitization meetings in most affected villages to practice malaria prevention and early seeking behaviours.
- Outreaches for Testing and treatment of fever cases in high burden villages
- Training of health workers in the private sector for malaria management
- Provision of LLINs to pregnant women in Antenatal care
- Provision of LLINs to under-fives in health facilities

- Revision of malaria commodities quantification to ensure supply of adequate commodities throughout the year by National Medical Stores.
- Fast track the Mosquito Net campaign scheduled to begin in 2020 to avail nets to every household in the community as the current ones are worn out.

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Members of Parliament, I would like to reiterate that there is stock of Malaria commodities in Busia District. As part of our response to the increased Malaria cases in Busia District, more stock of Malaria medicine and commodities were availed to the district.

In the government and private not for profit facilities, 7,300 doses of ACT, 25,000 Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs), 5,000 doses of Fansidar and 1,500 vials of Injectable Artesunate are available currently in Busia district.

The district is currently redistributing extra stock (1,800 doses of ACT) received from Bugiri district to facilities without stock. This is expected to last 2 weeks. On 26th July, 2019, The National Medical Stores (NMS) will supply the district with stock for 2 months expected to last until the next redistribution.

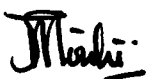
Rt. Hon. Speaker and Members of Parliament, The private facilities have adequate stocks for all commodities. The ACTs in the private sector are subsidized by the Ministry for the dose not to exceed a cost of 4000 shillings.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, In conclusion, Ministry of Health appeals to the communities to take preventive actions seriously during this period like sleeping under a treated mosquito net every night, drainage of stagnant water, closing doors and windows early, clearing bushes and seeking care promptly when they present with fever.

We would like to reiterate the Ministry's commitment towards provision of the highest possible level of Health services to all people in Uganda through delivery of promotive, preventive and curative services at all levels.

I beg to submit

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY



Dr. Joyce Moriku Kaducu

State Minister of Health in charge of Primary Health Care