

From: Andrew Clements <aclements@usaid.gov>
To: Tracey Goldstein <tgoldstein@ucdavis.edu>
CC: Jonna Mazet <jkmazet@ucdavis.edu>; Karen Saylor <ksaylor@metabiota.com>; Brian Bird <bhbird@ucdavis.edu>; David Wolking <djwolking@ucdavis.edu>; Elizabeth Leasure <ealeasure@ucdavis.edu>; Cara Chrisman <cchrisman@usaid.gov>; Alisa Pereira <apereira@usaid.gov>
Sent: 5/11/2018 4:24:48 PM
Subject: Re: Thinking ahead about possible animal sampling for Ebola in DRC

Thanks, Tracey.

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On May 11, 2018, at 6:12 PM, Tracey Goldstein <tgoldstein@ucdavis.edu> wrote:

Hi All,

My thoughts, based on results from Sierra Leone, is that if there are bats *inside* the affected people's houses they would be worth sampling and also if there are any in the *immediate* vicinity (ie. trees immediately around the house in the yard). I think the sample size may be small but but the context would make the most sense, rather than going out into surrounding forests and caves.

We can see what others think about this?

Best, Tracey

On Fri, May 11, 2018 at 12:21 AM, Andrew Clements <aclements@usaid.gov> wrote:

Hi all,

In the event, that there may be a request at some point from DRC to survey animals in the area of the current Ebola outbreak to identify the animal reservoir, I wanted to discuss with you ahead of time so that we can be prepared.

First, is it worth doing? It seems all previous efforts around outbreaks have failed, but that may be a function of too few animals being sampled and/or sampling too late so that infected animals either cleared a transient infection or died. (The current outbreak may have started more than a month ago so it may have been a while since the spillover occurred.) Based on Predict's experience with EHP, are there things that you would recommend now for animal sampling (besides starting ASAP) such as focusing on specific animals, sampling at specific interfaces, or increasing the number samples? Anything else?

Assuming the answer to the Q above is 'yes', could Predict (assuming adequate resources are available) rapidly mobilize a field team to collect the number of samples you think would be needed in a number of locations? What would be ballpark estimates for how long that team would need to be in the field and the overall cost?

Happy to discuss more by phone.

Thanks!

Andrew

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