

Attacks on Ebola Response

Latest available open-source safety, security and access information on reported attacks on health care in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

**15-30
November 2019**

November 2019: In Beni city, North Kivu province, International Committee of the Red Cross staff limited their movements within the city due to increasing insecurity in the area. **Source:** [Radio Opaki](#)

18 November 2019: In Butembo city, Lubero territory, North Kivu province, workers at two Ebola medical centres returned to work following three days of strikes resulting from an industrial dispute in which the workers claimed that they have not been given their salaries for several months. **Source:** [Radio Opaki](#) and [Actualité](#)

19 November 2019: In Boikene village, North Kivu province, Ugandan ADF rebels allegedly attacked the local health centre, killing six civilians and capturing ten others. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

25 November 2019: In Tshilenge city, Kasai-Oriental province, seven doctors and four administrative officers from the general referral hospital were suspended on the basis of being suspected of embezzlement of funds. **Source:** [Radio Opaki](#)

26 November 2019: In Beni city, North Kivu province, the WHO relocated non-essential response personnel from the area due to continuing violent unrest at recent fatal militia attacks on civilians, during which protestors also stormed a UN peacekeeping camp. UNICEF has also evacuated some of its staff, while some NGOs have suspended their operations temporarily **Sources:** [WHO](#) and [The Guardian](#)

28 November 2019: Near Mangina, Beni territory, North Kivu province, four Ebola health workers were killed in raid by reported Mai-Mai militia on an UN Ebola response coordination office. Ebola operations in the area were suspended as NGOs withdrew. Reportedly, only MSF remains operating in the location. **Sources:** [AWSD](#)², [Actualité](#), [Media Congo](#), [Radio Opaki I](#), [Radio Opaki II](#), [7sur7](#), [The Guardian](#) and [WHO](#)

28 November 2019: In Biakato, Ituri province, armed men attacked a WHO base, reportedly resulting in an unspecified number of dead, two of whom appear to have been vaccinators, injured, and unaccounted for. It remains unclear who was behind the attacks, with sources identifying both ADF and Mai-Mai militias. Following the attack, Ebola responders withdrew from the area.³ **Sources:** [Actualité](#), [Media Congo](#), [Radio Opaki I](#), [Radio Opaki II](#), [7sur7](#), [The Guardian](#) and [WHO](#)

This information alert is part of the Attacks on Ebola Response project.

It is published by Insecurity Insight from information made available in open sources.

The project supports organisations and health providers with information, analysis and practical recommendations on how to mitigate the impact of attacks on health care to ensure staff safety and better health outcomes.

The incidents reported are not a complete nor a representative list of all events that affected the provision of health care in the DRC and have not been independently verified.

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29 November 2019: In Oicha city, Beni territory, North Kivu province, unidentified youths set an Ebola health post on fire. **Source:** [Actualité](#)

Incidents reported by the World Health Organization's (WHO) Surveillance System of Attacks on Healthcare (SSA) in the DRC for the period 15-30 November 2019

The SSA⁴ reported three incidents – all reported intimidation, harassment or threatening behaviour towards health workers. One incident reported the perpetrator as armed with an individual weapon. There were no SSA reports of health workers being killed, kidnapped or arrested (KKA).

Accessed: 4 December 2019

¹ Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) database attribution policy. Accessed 4 December 2019.

² The AWSDB database does not include the names of individual victims or the agencies affected by an incident. This is done in consideration of the victims and their families who may not wish to have the names publicised in this format and to afford equal respect to the many victims for whom this information is not available. Accessed 4 December 2019.

³ Note: The information for this particular event remains incomplete. Specifically, the reports consulted provide incomplete or contradictory information in relation to the perpetrator of this event and the number of casualties.

⁴ The Surveillance System of Attacks on Healthcare (SSA) is a global standardized and systemic approach to collecting data of attacks on health care. This system utilizes the same methodology across countries to address the knowledge gap of the extent and nature of attacks on health care. The WHO SSA does not include information on location or perpetrator.

Image: Goran Tomasevic/REUTERS.