

Animals with unusual bleeding or abortions

Community Case Definition

- Animals with unexplained bleeding from the body – gums, eyes, nose or anus, or blood in stools or vomit.

OR

- Cluster of abortions in livestock and/or many sudden deaths of young lambs and calves (for farmers - more than usual, abnormal)

How it is spread

- Mosquito bites spread the disease from infected animals to people.
- Eating or drinking the products of infected animals – meat, milk, blood.
- Contact with the fluids, wastes or meats of infected animals. Farming or slaughtering are high risk.

Key messages

- Vaccinate livestock to protect both animals and people from Rift Valley Fever.
- Be careful with animal movements – do not move animals if there are reports of RVF in the area.

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- Control mosquitos - cover water pots, empty them often and keep them clean. Do not allow waste water sitting, have good drainage flow.
- Protect against mosquito bites. Wear long sleeves and trousers, use insect repellents during the day. Sleep under a mosquito net at night.

Actions during alerts and epidemics

- Community-Based Surveillance (CBS) alert reports.
- Mosquito control activities by households and community clean-up.
- Restrict the movement of livestock. Do not take animals to trade markets during outbreaks.
- Cook animal products very well (meat, milk, blood).
- Use personal protective equipment (gloves, masks, clothing) when slaughtering animals.
- Animal authorities must disinfect and dispose of animal bodies.