

## Merck to donate Ebola vaccine candidate for research programme in Uganda

By Leroy Leo 25 Oct 2022

Merck & Co said it was planning to produce and donate investigational Sudan ebolavirus vaccine to a global non-profit organisation's research program in Uganda, which is facing an outbreak of the disease.



Source: Reuters.

The investigational vaccine that will be donated to IAVI is similar to Merck's Ervebo vaccine, which is approved against the Zaire ebolavirus strain.

The virus circulating in Uganda is the Sudan strain of Ebola, for which there is no proven vaccine, unlike the more common Zaire strain that spread during recent outbreaks in neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo.

There have been more than 90 confirmed and probable cases of Ebola in Uganda since the start of the outbreak, including at least 44 deaths, according to statements by the health ministry and the World Health Organization.

Merck said it expects to provide about 50,000 doses to IAVI by the end of 2022 and is working with the organisation towards a formal agreement.

IAVI aims to address urgent, unmet global health challenges including HIV, tuberculosis and emerging infectious diseas	es.
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