

Ebola kills doctor in Uganda, first health worker killed in latest outbreak

By [Elias Biryabarema](#)

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A Tanzanian doctor working in Uganda who contracted Ebola has died, the first health worker killed by the disease in the latest outbreak in the country, Uganda's health minister said on Saturday.



Source: Reuters. Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni attends a news conference.

"I regret to announce that we have lost our first doctor, Dr Mohammed Ali, a Tanzanian national, 37-year-old male," the health minister, Jane Ruth Aceng, tweeted.

She said Ali had tested positive for Ebola on 26 September and died while receiving treatment at a hospital in Fort Portal, a town about 300km west of the capital Kampala.

Authorities in the east African nation announced the outbreak of the deadly hemorrhagic fever on 20 September triggering fears of a major health crisis in the country of 45 million people.

There is no vaccine for the Sudan strain of the disease behind the latest Uganda infections.

The health ministry said on Friday, before Ali's death, that the disease had so far infected 35 people and killed seven.

Ali was among six health workers who include doctors, an anaesthesiologist and one medical student who have contracted the disease.

Ebola mainly spreads through contact with the bodily fluids of an infected person. The viral disease has symptoms including intense weakness, muscle pain, headaches and a sore throat, vomiting, diarrhoea and rashes, among others.

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