

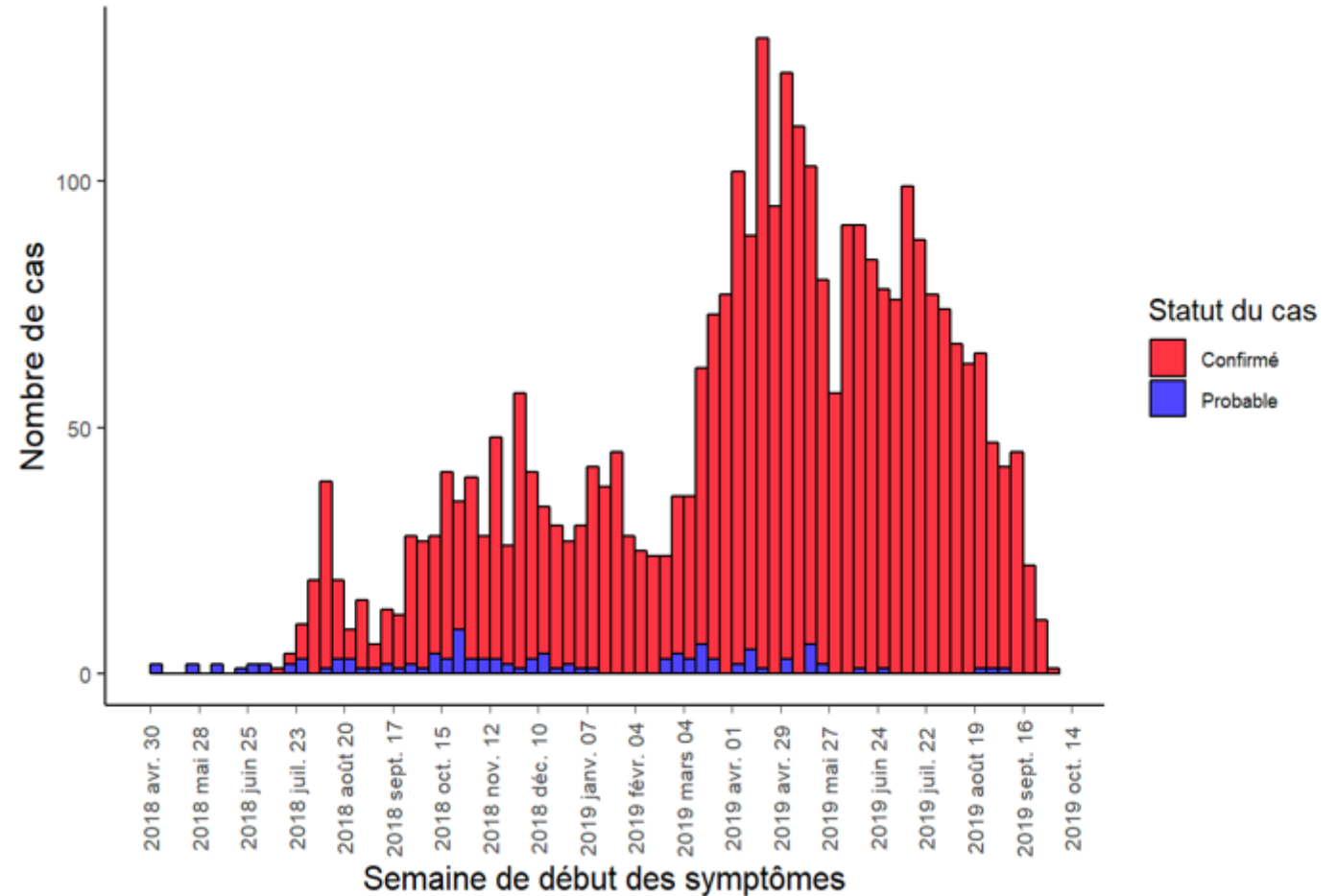
Conclusions and proposed next steps

Helen Rees
Co-Chair of SAGE Working
Group
on Ebola Vaccines



On the current outlook of the outbreak

- Transmission intensity substantial but encouraging trends over last weeks
- Shifts in hotspots from Katwa/Butembo to Beni, and Mandima, Kalunguta and Mambasa
 - Shift from mostly urban to mostly rural context
- Risk of further spread in DRC and to neighbouring countries remains very high



On the implementation of the SAGE recommendations

Most recommendations have been implemented in DRC and neighboring countries.

- There is a need to continue to monitor vaccine effect and safety
- The steps to soon initiate the studies with the J&J vaccine – once approved by national ERC and NRA -are welcomed as they address a previous SAGE recommendation.

On the potential for further adjustments of the dose

The Ebola vaccines Working Group has considered the evidence on further reduction of dose of rVSV ZEBOV GP.

The proposed next steps are to:

- monitor outbreak evolution,
- define criteria to trigger a risk benefit analysis,
- review once more the evidence
- conduct a risk benefit analysis

On the effect of rVSV ZEBOV GP on the outbreak control

The Ebola vaccines Working Group has considered the data on ring vaccination in DRC, the estimated effect of ring vaccination and the forecasted impact on the outbreak evolution

The next steps are to:

- DSMB to complete review of efficacy, effectiveness and safety.
- GACVS to update the review on safety profile of rVSV ZEBOV GP.
- SAGE WG to consider the outcomes of the above reviews and any implications for policy recommendations.

On the plans for global Ebola vaccines security

The Ebola vaccines Working Group has considered a draft proposal to develop a plan.

The next steps are to:

- WHO Secretariat to complete the plan and to seek inputs from all key stakeholders.
- SAGE WG to review the revised version of the plan and consider any implications for policy recommendations.

On the plans for global Ebola vaccines security

It is anticipated that the global demand for vaccines may increase and therefore increased supply capacity and multiple manufacturers will be needed in the short-to medium-term to meet this demand and ensure vaccine security.

- a. the impact of the ongoing Ebola outbreak in Eastern DRC and the potential to implement strategies complementary to ring vaccination** in particular more aggressive vaccination of people at risk (e.g. health care workers in affected areas and border areas and other at risk populations),
- b. the demonstrated effect and safety of rVSV ZEBOV GP during a large outbreak** and therefore the expanded demand from neighboring countries and others with perceived risk of EVD importations
- c. once a licensed vaccines become available, it is likely the vaccine demand will increase**
- d. If the outbreak continues in Eastern DRC, other countries**, including industrialized non-Gavi supported countries, may want to stockpile or procure vaccines for preventive vaccination in HCWs.

Further policy deliberations should ensue at SAGE, including considerations for use of vaccines for preventive vaccination.

Current recommendations

No additional modifications to the current recommendations are proposed at this time point

