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Zambia Health Point

MONDAY 20 MARCH 2017

MOH 'ADVANCE' TO FIGHT LATEST CHOLERA OUTBREAKS

LUSAKA_March 20, 2017: Ministry of Health Acting Spokesperson Dr. Wezi Kaonga has called on members of the public to heighten cholera preventive measures at individual and household levels as some areas are recording cholera outbreaks.

Dr Kaonga said Cholera has broken out in Chiengi and Mpulungu Districts of Luapula and Northern Provinces respectively.

Twenty-three new cases were reported in Chiengi District over the weekend bringing the cumulative total to 54. The new cases came from an illegal fishing camp which has since been closed down.

A cumulative total of 16 patients has also been admitted in Mpulungu since 15th March, 2017 and 13 are currently under treatment.

"The Ministry has moved in to prevent further outbreaks of Cholera in the affected areas, and so far no death has been recorded in the treatment centers" said Dr Kaonga, adding that the Ministry is also supporting all districts with resources for epidemic preparedness.

A health promotion team has since moved in to raise awareness on cholera in the affected areas and distribution of chlorine is ongoing.

And The Ministry of Health has further reminded members of the public to prevent cholera everywhere by ensuring that they drink clean and safe water (chlorinated or boiled), proper and healthy disposal of waste, washing hands after using the toilet and before handling food, and healthy keeping of food and the environment.

Meanwhile, the anthrax outbreak in Western Province is under control as no new cases have been reported in the last 34 days.

ANDREW H. PHIRI, JOURNALIST

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I am a health communicator - championing for health literacy and health promotion in the country.

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