



MARBURG VIRUS : SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NEWS : Marburg Virus Outbreak Strains Rwanda's Healthcare System

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

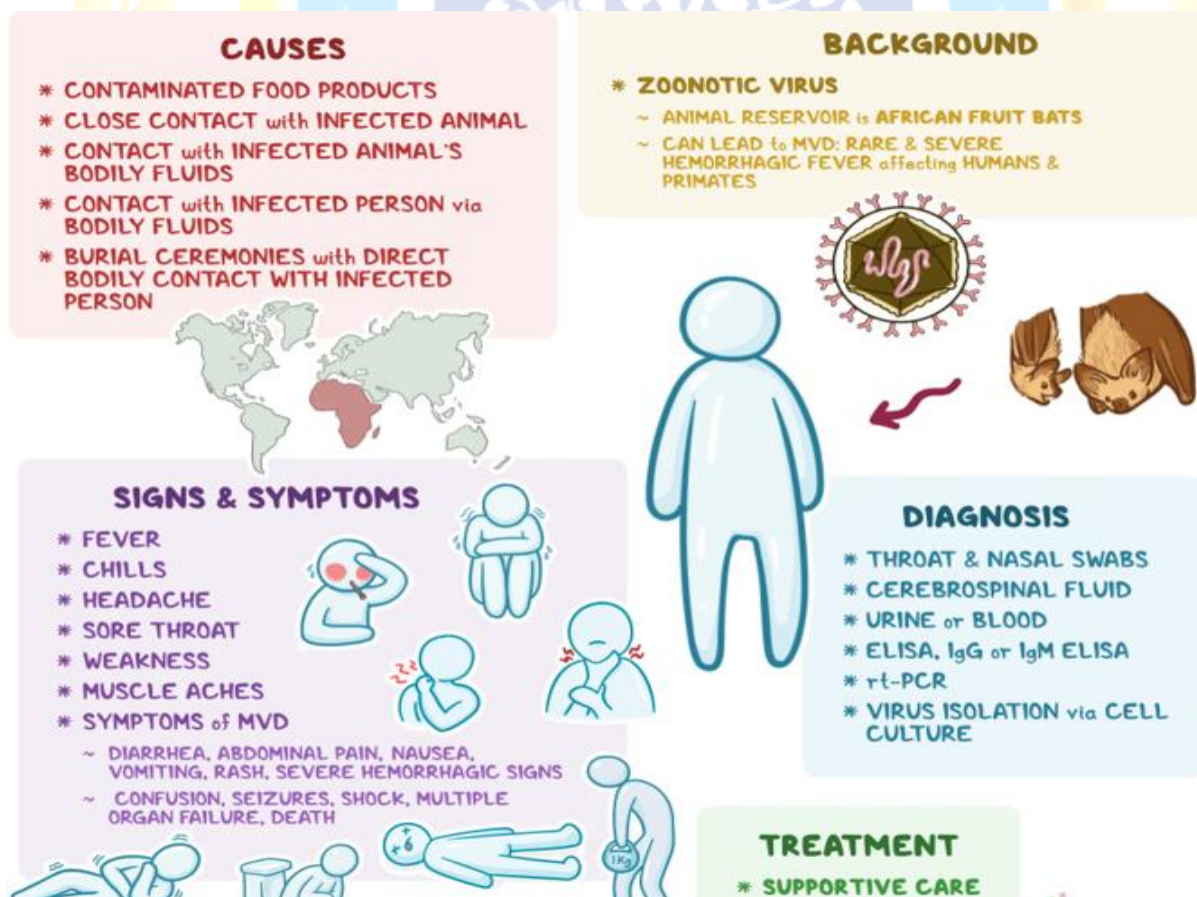
Rwanda is grappling with its first reported case of Marburg virus, a deadly pathogen, with at least 46 infections and 12 deaths so far. The virus is threatening to strain Rwanda's healthcare system, which has only 1,500 doctors for over 13 million people. Around 80% of infections have been among healthcare workers.

Marburg Virus Disease (MVD)

- **Cause:** Marburg virus (from the filovirus family, related to Ebola).
- **Fatality Rate:** 24% to 88%, depending on virus strain and medical care.
- **First Outbreak:** Marburg, Germany (1967), later outbreaks mostly in Africa.

Transmission

- **Primary Source:** Exposure to Rousettus bats.
- **Human-to-Human:** Direct contact with infected bodily fluids or contaminated materials.





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Symptoms

- **Incubation Period:** 2 to 21 days.
- **Early Symptoms:** Fever, headache, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea.
- **Severe Cases:** Internal and external bleeding, death within 8-9 days from blood loss and shock.

Prevention & Treatment

- **No Approved Vaccines/Treatment:** Supportive care like rehydration helps survival.
- **Current Efforts:** Rwanda exploring experimental vaccines; 700 doses given to healthcare workers.

Source : <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-health/what-is-marburg-virus-which-has-rocked-rwanda-9608879/>

