

Second WHO doctor contracts Ebola in Sierra Leone

9 September 2014

The World Health Organization said on Monday that one of its doctors in Sierra Leone has been diagnosed with the Ebola virus and will be evacuated.

"A WHO doctor working in an Ebola treatment centre in Sierra Leone has tested positive for the disease," it said in a statement.

"The doctor is currently in stable condition in Freetown, and will be evacuated shortly."

It is the second WHO employee to contract the virus in Sierra Leone after a Senegalese medical expert was diagnosed in late August and evacuated to Hamburg, Germany, where he was said to be "in a stable condition" on Monday.

The nationality of the latest victim has not been released.

The WHO has provided mentoring and direction at the Ebola treatment centre, which is located in the Kenema Government Hospital.

The centre lost its head doctor, Umar Khan, who died from the virus in late July. He was the country's only virologist and was hailed as a "national hero" by President Ernest Koroma.

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