

ROBERT KOCH INSTITUT

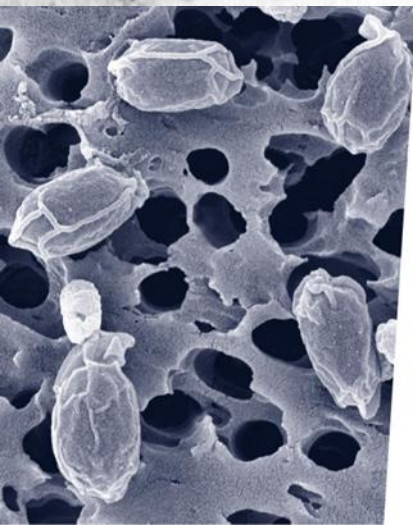


Connective Cities Frankfurt a.M.

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25 until 27 November 2015

Ebola virus disease : Measures undertaken and Lessons Learned in Germany



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Federal Information Centre for Biological Threats and Special Pathogens (IBBS)

Office of **STAKOB** (Permanent Working Group of Competence and Treatment Centres for
the treatment of highly contagious life threatening diseases)

Robert Koch Institute Berlin

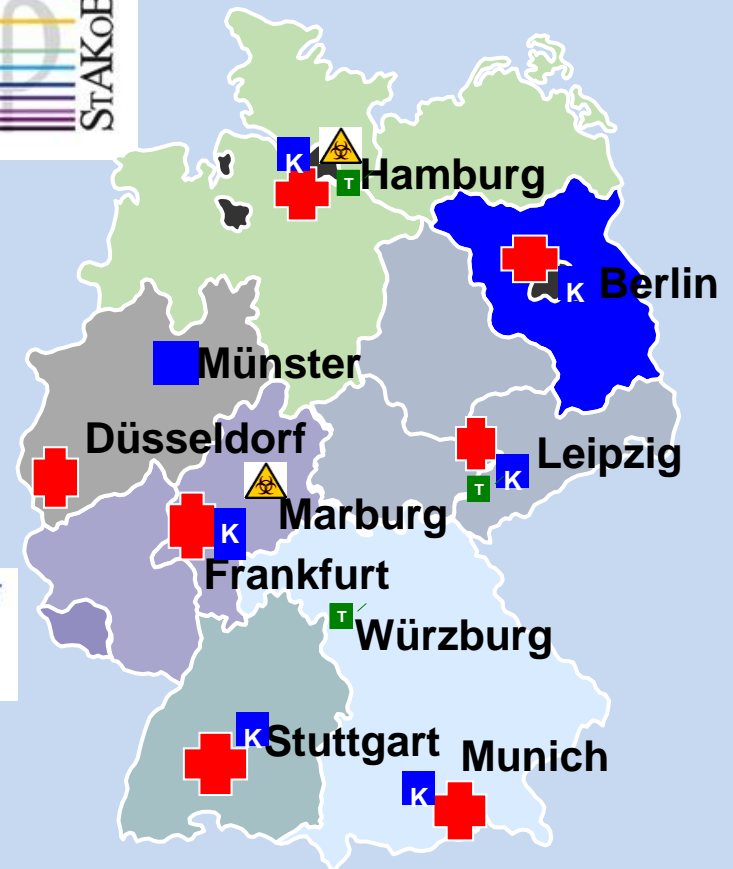
Institutional setting

STAKOB

- Permanent working group of high level isolation units (HLIU), corresponding public health authorities („competence centres“) and associated partners
- 7 HLIU 
- 7 Competence Centres 
- 2 BSL-4 Laboratories 
- 3 Training Centres 

Robert Koch Institute

- Public Health Authority on Federal Level
- But: Health affairs regulated on State level
- IBBS (in „special pathogens unit“)
 - Office of STAKOB (coordination, no leading role)



Starting point

- Ebola virus Disease (EVD) West Africa Outbreak
 - Declaration of the Public Health Emergency of International Concern by WHO on 8 August 2014
 - Increasing caseload in early autumn 2014
 - Nosocomial infections in Spain and the U.S.
 - Highly pathogenic virus with little scientific knowledge about
- Increased concern in the medical and civil society



TODESSEUCHE EBOLA

Wie viel Angst muss ich in Deutschland haben?

Jeder Zweite hat Angst vor der Krankheit +++ Für Infizierte gibt es 50 Betten in ganz Deutschland!

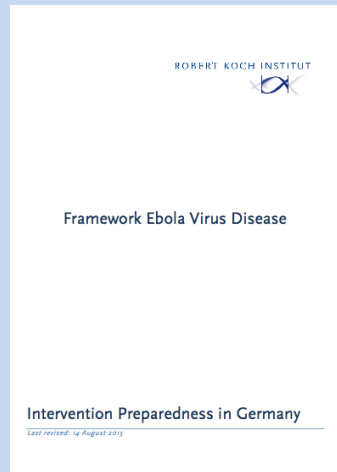
Sources: nordkurier.de , rp-online.de, bild.de,



Approach

STAKOB + RKI

- 1.) Frequent consultations of STAKOB (face2face, phone conferences)
- 2.) Offering of treatment capacities in Germany
- 3.) Implementation of MEDEVAC flight „Robert Koch“
- 4.) Flowchart for definition of an EVD suspect case
- 5.) Framework concept for the management of EVD



RKI with other partners: Laboratory testing (w/ EM Lab), Strengthening of epidemiological surveillance (w/ WHO, ECDC), Emergency preparedness in neighbouring countries (w/ Medical Missionary Institute Würzburg) etc.

Outputs *(events related to Germany, selection only)*

- 3 confirmed cases of EVD (all Healthcare Workers – HCW- medically evacuated to Germany) treated in HLIU, 1 death
- 1 High Risk Exposure (HCW medically evacuated) observed in HLIU, did not fall sick
- Numerous „false alerts“
- No medical evacuations with MEDEVAC plane „Robert Koch“ took place

Lessons

- Act faster and more flexible
- Be proactive in deploying experts to affected regions
- Write Guidelines/Framework concepts for other „rare“ highly contagious life threatening diseases (e.g. Pneumonic Plague, Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever...)
- Maintain well established system of HLIU whilst strengthening capacities for management of highly contagious, threatening diseases in the periphery

Follow up

- Identification and management of research gaps in highly infectious life threatening diseases, e.g.
Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever and Lassa Fever
- Perform research projects for strengthening medical capacities for Highly Contagious and Life Threatening Diseases in the periphery (Application for **EKOS** Project handed in)