Hepatitis E Outbreak ’Under Control’ in Uganda

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An outbreak of the hepatitis E virus (HEV) in Uganda’s Napak province is now under control, after about 527 people contracted the virus and 15 died, New Vision reports. A health ministry spokesperson claimed the outbreak was brought “under control” through increased monitoring of the disease within infected people’s homes, involvement of the United Nations and an increase in health supplies and drugs to treat the disease. The first case of hep E in Napak was reported in June 2013, with cases peaking in October, when at least 10 pregnant women died. The virus was most likely transmitted through contaminated drinking water and worsened by the region’s limited access to adequate toilet facilities.

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